The FLOWER GARDEN DAY BY DAY

Mrs. Francis King

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BY

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"The Well-Considered Garden," "Pages from a Garden Note-Book," "Chronicles of the Garden," "The Little Garden," "Variety in the Little Garden," etc.

WITH A FOREWORD BY
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TO

ELIZABETH KING BENTLEY

IN ALL AFFECTION

NOTE

In the writing of this small book I have found great help in my files of *The Garden Magazine* (now *Garden & Home Builder*) from its beginning in 1905. It is a pleasure to acknowledge that help here; and to express my belief that American gardening owes to Dr. Wilhelm Miller and to Mr. Leonard Barron, editors of this monthly, a debt it can hardly repay. When little or no practical advice was available, this little journal was our friend and counselor; and often do we return to its pages for suggestions and advice. All honor to Dr. Miller and to Mr. Barron, who must have felt themselves voices crying in the wilderness but who see now the good they have done. My thanks are here expressed also to Miss Jekyll, a holder of the Victoria Medal of Honor, who for twenty-five years has been the kindest of friends directly and through her unequalled books on gardening, for the latest kindness of her Foreword. Also I am grateful to Mrs. William A. Bahlke of Alma, and to Miss Lua A. Minns of the Department of Floriculture, Cornell University, for critical reading of the manuscript from their several standpoints of technical knowledge and practical experience.

It is taken for granted in these suggestions that people get what they most want. For the cost of four movies, an iris as magnificent as the yellow Shekinah can be bought;

for a new automobile tire, peony Mrs. C. S. Minot may be substituted; and for the money spent on a radio set, what is there that the garden cannot have? It is a question of preferences. Therefore all is not cheap that is mentioned here, but I have tried to strike a balance, giving now inexpensive varieties of seeds, plants and shrubs, and now the rarer, finer things which like all such affairs, cost what they are worth.

If the reader will make his own notes for his own region on the blank spaces opposite each paragraph of the book, in one year he will have made a little volume of his own; one perfectly suited to his own garden. In this way will be spread the practical value of "The Flower Garden Day by Day."

The book-lists for each month are not set down as best books, favorite books, representative books; they have been found to have life and value—some of them may have to be hunted for—and all are books that for one reason or another I have come to like and to enjoy. In these lists lie treasures of garden help, garden beauty and garden pleasure, and it is hoped that the titles may speak to those to whom the occupations of reading and gardening seem to go hand in hand.

LOUISA YEOMANS KING.

FOREWORD

THOUGH gardening books are now so many, there has been none as yet that gives a full and accurate reminder of what those who love and work in their gardens should do throughout the year. Every good gardener makes some kind of note of what should be done at various times, for only veterans of the craft have it all so clearly in memory that they may not have need of the written word. Mrs. Francis King has seen how great a boon such a book would be to the many who have the good will but not the knowledge, or whose personal memoranda may lack continuance or cohesion. To these, a fellow worker across the seas may be allowed to commend this most helpful book, the work of one who has gone through every detail, whose ripe experience has already given to the gardening world books of encouragement and inspiration and who is now the writer of another that will be of the utmost service to all who are tending their gardens in the temperate regions of the Western World.

GERTRUDE JEKYLL

THE FLOWER GARDEN DAY BY DAY

JANUARY

JANUARY 1. Let the first of your good resolutions on this day be this: "Resolved; to have a garden." If this wish is sincere, the garden will materialize. If ground is unpromising, it can be made good. If the size of lot is small, then ingenuity and imagination must be specially brought to bear upon it. With these, and taste, the smallest garden will be far more lovely than the largest without them.

JANUARY 2. Let your second good resolution be: "No garden for me without a plan." Never take your plans from those occasionally shown in the seed catalogues; the round beds of tulips, the diamond-wise divisions of the small perennial garden. We have come to see that complicated geometrical forms are too elaborate for most lots and most landscapes; that the simpler the design, the better the garden's future.

JANUARY 3. Though many seed and plant lists will have come by now, look to-day over the advertising pages of the magazines for addresses of even more seedsmen and plantsmen. Send for their lists. Make a collection of these. As their number grows, tie them into bundles labeling them thus: seeds, plants, perennials, trees and shrubs,

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bulbs, irises, peonies, lilacs, lilies, gladioli, foreign, tools and devices, miscellaneous, and so on.

JANUARY 4. To-day decide upon your type of garden. Shall it be formal or informal? Is it to be that best of gardens of fruit, flowers and vegetables, or will it be, by reason of certain circumstances, a garden of green only? Here upkeep is most simple, expense comes only in the beginning as a rule. An effect of distinction can be produced on the small lot only if a simple, beautiful plan is evolved and used.

JANUARY 5. Where, then, shall a plan be found for the little garden? From the accredited landscape architect; in books, in pictures, in garden visits; in the advice of friends and neighbors who have achieved something really good on their own land; but after all these resources have been tried, in one's own mind, intelligence and inventive faculty. No garden can or should be a copy of any one else's. Think to-day on these things.

JANUARY 6. As you plan your garden—indeed before you begin—go out and survey your house from every angle. Think about this house. Consider it as a composition, a picture. If there are other houses too near for beauty, your first thought will be a screen of planting, that quietest of barricades against even one's neighbor. Consider the type of garden best suited to the style and nature of your house; and always have the garden at the back if possible for privacy, safety and surprise.

JANUARY 7. Consider to-day in planning your garden, the elevation of your house. If it is set high, there is the

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chance for terraces and retaining walls, great things for fine garden effects. If it is low and flat, care must be taken to have the design of the little beds and borders with their dividing walks of grass, gravel or flagstones, of beautiful and even elegant proportion. Elegance in the little garden is always a matter of proportion; and it is here that the fine landscape architect can lay the best foundation.

JANUARY 8. Also in planning your garden, remember William Morris's words: "A garden should by no means imitate either the willfulness or the wildness of nature, but should look like a thing never to be seen except near a house." "As houses," says another, "ought not to look like caves, so gardens ought not to be designed to look like flowery meadows or stretches of woodland." Here are some of the reasons for a plan, a plan drawn to scale, in relation to the house, no matter how large or how small both house and garden may be.

JANUARY 9. Look over your sketch to-day, and in arranging for the garden on the small lot, take into consideration the surrounding ones. Think of what should be screened out, of what should be seen, of backgrounds for your flowering shrubs and flowers. Remember that delightful saying of Clutton-Brock's, reassuring to the gardener with a small property: "A single flowering shrub rightly placed, has your eye to itself, like an altar-piece in a quiet church."

JANUARY 10. Adapt to your outline plan the following suggestions for the small area at the back of the

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house. Suppose the ground to measure fifty by twenty-five feet. Along the two long sides and across the back line of this space set, evenly spaced and some twelve feet apart, such dwarf standard apple trees as King David or Delicious. Within these lines set plants of good varieties of peonies, in holes eighteen inches across, these holes to be six feet apart, and cut out of turf. You now have two periods of fine bloom in small and large flowers, one line of fruit, and at all times a dignified, quiet and rather elegant planting to see and use as a sitting place. All this takes a minimum of care.

JANUARY 11. No matter how small the garden, plan for a few fruit trees within its limits. In Geneva, New York, is a nursery where all kinds of dwarf fruit trees can be bought, trees which grow no taller than twelve or fifteen feet.

JANUARY 12. Order to-day for spring planting at least four dwarf fruit trees and use these as accents in four parts of the garden, placing them equidistant from each other or in balanced fashion. If you can afford more, have a little fruit-tree-walk somewhere, these small subjects to be planted in March or April some eight feet apart and opposite each other. Imagine such a walk of pears in successive springs, with daffodils and forget-me-nots thickly clustering below the blossoming trees.

JANUARY 13. Test now any garden seeds from the last summer's harvest. Make a simple tester with two sheets of blotting paper and two plates, one to cover the other. Lay the seeds between the sheets of paper and keep the latter

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moist in a uniform temperature of about 65 degrees. The average seed will soon sprout under these conditions.

JANUARY 14. Two words to impress upon the gardener for this month and this day are these: Order early! So great are the gardening demands now upon those who deal in such wares, that the late comer is apt to lose the chance for what he wants. This advice will be frequently repeated in these pages, for it is sound and should never be out of mind.

JANUARY 15. Seeds of some slow-growing annuals should be sown late this month in the hot bed. Among these are lobelias and verbenas. The most interesting dwarf lobelias in color are Cambridge Blue (light blue) and Crystal Palace (dark blue). Unlike many flowers so described in the seed catalogues, these, with verbenas, actually bloom from spring to frost. Get seed of a good dark purple verbena, without an eye, and of a rich rose pink. These plants will prove treasures of color later.

JANUARY 16. Buy seeds of *Lobelia ramosa tenuior* and of *Verbena venosa*. These two, the verbena back of the lobelia, make a most unusual and beautiful effect when used as an edging. The lobelia is of a purplish blue, the verbena reddish purple. The two colors enhance each other, and the habits of growth of each are quite different.

JANUARY 17. From now on through February, is the time to consider the stock of tools, to sharpen spades and shears; to repair the toothless rake, to replace the bent or broken trowel by a new, strong one. See to your stock of labels, wood, celluloid, paper or zinc.

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JANUARY 18. Do not let snow in winter disturb your gardening mind. Heavy and unmelting snow through January is a mercy, and this for the reason that a deep covering of this kind protects plants and roots during the alternate thawing and freezing which is apt to occur in January. Beat or shake your evergreens lightly however, and shrubs generally, after a heavy fall of snow; for in case of milder weather followed by a freeze, the snow on boughs becomes ice, and breakage is apt to follow.

JANUARY 19. To-day, if weather permits, examine your trees, shrubs and plants. If the covering leaves have blown off roses, replace them. It is now that a slight covering of evergreen boughs, if obtainable, should be placed over the handsome foliage of *Berberis aquifolium* and rhododendron to keep these from the burning and drying of February and March sun.

JANUARY 20. Lists of seeds and plants ordered now should be carefully entered in a garden notebook. Such a book—a new one each year—is invaluable for present use and future reference. On its pages should be the plan of your garden, any changes in the plan made during one season, notes for proposed changes in the garden for the following autumn, small charts of plantings of roses, peonies or any collections of any kind from crocuses up.

JANUARY 21. In looking through catalogues to-day, the beginner in gardening is advised to select for purchase standard seeds only. Learn to know these first. After a year or two of experience, turn to the pages of new varie-

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ties. It is then that the high excitements of gardening really become adventures in gardening.

JANUARY 22. Order seeds of perennials now. By preparing early and sowing March first, you will gain three months in the size and sturdiness of plants for September moving. It is well to sow perennial seeds in June also when they are offered in quantity and in new catalogues by many dealers; but the early sown seeds will be more satisfactory. Start in the house or hot bed, seeds of Canterbury-bell and foxglove, those two invaluable biennials, for bloom the following year.

JANUARY 23. What to order—this is the question. One's favorites, of course; but why not some newer kinds of those favorites? Why order a petunia of a muddy mauve, or some packets of mixed seeds when those clear violets such as Balcony Blue and Burpee's Blue await us on the seedsman's shelves, and will give such character and brilliance to the summer and autumn garden?

JANUARY 24. Consider however a few seeds of mixed colors which are good. Sweet-william is one. These bloom gayly and with fire for two or three weeks at a time when not so many other flowers are in evidence, and the effect of a really good mixture is very fine.

JANUARY 25. There is a world of study in the subject of times of bloom of flowers in the small garden. Make a simple table of this to-day for your own use. There is another in the study of color; yet another in the forms and habits of plants. Yet this need not discourage the

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gardener. The knowledge comes with the work, and if mistakes are made, there is always next year.

JANUARY 26. To-day if seeds have come from the dealer, write or print a ten-inch painted wooden label very clearly and attach it with a rubber band to the packet of seed to which it belongs. Then all is ready for sowing when earth is warmer again.

JANUARY 27. Pansies may be sown now in pans or flats. Varieties of seed now offered in this country are very fine, among them Vaughan's, Dreer's, Steele's. Time was when we thought we had to send to France or Germany for such seed. That time is past. Pansies are slow-growing, and can be set out in April in the border, for they like cold. Therefore start them early in flats or in a cold frame.

JANUARY 28. Sow pansy seed thus: sift the soil thoroughly and fill the flat with it, first putting in a shallow foundation of small broken stone for drainage. On this sifted earth sprinkle the seeds, then sift a fine blanket of even finer soil over these and press down with a board. The first watering should be done by setting the flat in water half its height; as soon as the top is seen to be moist, take the flat out, and keep in a warm place, never allowing the earth to become dry.

JANUARY 29. Plant to-day if in the latitude of Philadelphia, seeds of heliotrope or of *Primula obconica* in your hot beds, which should have been made in the autumn, with their higher ends against a board fence or a wall. These should lie to the south, and simple directions for making

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them will be found under the month of October in this book. With these, tender plants can be wintered safely also.

JANUARY 30. Cut now a few short branches of cherry, apple and plum, place in water in the house and force them into bloom. This is a cheerful winter experiment.

JANUARY 31. If you live in that uncommon spot in which there is no garden club, organize one. If it has but ten members, it will be worth while, in fact, perhaps more worth while than one with two hundred. The reason for garden clubs is the chance they give for discussion of gardening, for the comparing of plans and plantings, for the exchange of experiences in gardening far and near, for the knowledge of all gardens which traveling members can bring to the rest; but finally and above all, for the perfect delight of a society which exists to further "the purest of human pleasures."

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JANUARY

Books on Garden Design

An Introduction to the Study of Landscape Design—*Hubbard and Kimball.* Macmillan

Design in the Little Garden—*Fletcher Steele.* (*Little Garden Series*) Atlantic Monthly Press

Garden Design in Theory and Practice—*M. Agar.* Lippincott

The Spirit of the Garden—*Martha Brookes Hutcheson.* Atlantic Monthly Press

Le Nouveau Jardin—*André Vera.* Emile-Paul, Paris

Gardens in the Making—*Walter H. Godfrey.* Batsford

Gardens—*J. C. N. Forestier.* Scribner's.

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FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 1. Watch the sky. It is in this month that eyes accustomed to the changes in clouds—in sky colors—will notice on one bright day a welcome deepening of the blue, which means really the end of winter and the beginning of the spring. Then think again of your garden and ask yourself whether during January you have made full arrangements for the busy months to come. Read these notes for February before sending in your main seed order.

FEBRUARY 2. Once again, have a plan ready for your garden. Economy, usefulness, beauty, these cannot be had without a plan. If you call in the services of a landscape architect and have had no previous experience yourself in planning or gardening, take his advice to the letter. You will not only have a better garden for following out the plan of a trained mind, but you will learn yourself from a sensible acquiescence in what is done.

FEBRUARY 3. Devote at least a part of even a small ground to vegetables. Allot the space, make a little chart of the rows, planning for succession crops, so that not one inch of your earth shall be wasted. The seed lists will give information as to time from seed to crop; and with this, a system can be worked out to make the smallest square or oblong of ground highly productive.

FEBRUARY 4. We may name now some varieties of flowers to get as the most interesting of their kinds. For

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instance, if it is possible to buy seed of *Ageratum fraseri*, do not buy seeds of any other variety; this is much finer in color than any we have had thus far. *Ageratum nanum*, (Blue Perfection) is a good one to plant below *fraseri*, as it is lower and of a darker lavender.

FEBRUARY 5. Flower seeds to be sown at this time in boxes in the house or in hot beds, are annual asters, verbena and celosia, especially the beautiful copper-colored Castle Gould hybrids. The cheapest of all gardening is that in which all or nearly all of the plants are raised from seed.

FEBRUARY 6. Look up to-day and on the following days the seeds mentioned in the ensuing paragraphs. Salpiglossis, especially the variety known as Blue and Gold, is an indispensable annual to give grace and color to the garden or border. The annual statices, especially the nice yellow Bonduelli, are needed also where variety is desired.

FEBRUARY 7. The zinnia, that necessity for any garden now, especially because of its amazingly fine new types and colors, should not be started indoors until late March or even later; and seed sown in the open comes up quickly and is in bloom by mid-July in normal seasons. But seed should be bought now, and three tall ones should always be bought, Exquisite, Illumination and Old Rose. The colors of these are indescribably lovely both in the border and for cutting. Dream (probably named for the Darwin tulip of the same title) has the same pale heliotrope hue.

FEBRUARY 8. Collinsia, a lovely little annual of lilac and white, rather low in growth, is very pretty for edges

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of borders and not much used in this country. The kind called bicolor is the best. Try this. Get something decidedly new into the garden. In this way and this way only, the garden vocabulary becomes a large one, and the number of plants one can choose from is increased.

FEBRUARY 9. In annual asters, there is so much to choose from that it is hard to suggest varieties; but some of the most effective are those of the *sinensis* type, long stemmed single asters in beautiful colors, and of the anemone-flowered kind, in which a great variety of hues can be had too. One favorite of those who know it, is the Aster Old Rose, of a lovely ashes-of-roses color, double, but not very tall. This seed is offered in an English list.

FEBRUARY 10. The hot bed for the forcing of early vegetables and for early seed germination, is used in many large gardens, but for the beginner in gardening or for the small garden, the cold frame is far better. Directions for making this, and a hot bed as well, will be found under the month of October.

FEBRUARY 11. Cynoglossum is a beautiful light blue —true blue—biennial. It is well worth getting if there it a cold frame in which to keep it over winter; but in our colder climates, it cannot be left out-of-doors. If it carries over well, there will be the most charming large forget-me-not-like flowers at the top of a two-foot stem, the following June. Houndstongue is its common name.

FEBRUARY 12. Cornflowers (*Centaurea cyanus*), in spite of their fleeting quality, are so charming in color that they must be used in most gardens. Dreer's Double Blue

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is perhaps the finest of all, though there is one listed called King of Bluebottles which sounds very fine; it is really *Centaurea depressa*, a dwarf and spreading plant, "large rich blue flowers with crimson centers."

FEBRUARY 13. Balsams are very effective in the border and the fine new camellia-flowered sorts are most lovely in texture and color. These are so much larger than the old kinds offered twenty years ago, that it is astonishing to mark the change. When balsams are set out they must have full sun, a fine soil and plenty of water.

FEBRUARY 14. Calendulas are to be rather sparingly used in a garden with little bright color in it. Where the plan is to have many brilliant and gay annuals and perennials of strong color, these vivid orange flowers, so plentiful in Florida gardens during the late winter and spring, can be added with fine effect; but if the garden is of more delicate colors, Sulphur Queen and the white varieties are best.

FEBRUARY 15. Candytuft in its newer lilac color is most beautiful for any garden foreground. The white is a necessity, too; but the new hyacinth-flowered kinds in pale and deep lilac (this always affected by the season if it is very sunny) are charming additions to the border. This seed is really for out-of-door sowing unless a very early bloom is required and a quantity of it should be on hand for successive sowings, as candytuft, while a wonderful bloomer, is quick to go.

FEBRUARY 16. The more one thinks of perpetual blues

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in the garden, the more one considers getting the seeds of various lobelias. Is there any other persistent blue? Hardly. These are things which must be raised early. Any florist can explain how, for this is a great florists' plant; in fact, many of them still grow lobelias for that obsolete object, the hanging basket. The rich blues of the deeper lobelias glow like jewels in August borders, and the paler ones lighten the effect at the same time.

FEBRUARY 17. Godetia is an effective annual not nearly common enough in American gardens. Double Rose is a nice color, and another double called Rosy Morn, has a fine touch of salmon in its pink flowers. There are dwarf varieties also, which can well be grown before the taller ones named above.

FEBRUARY 18. As for coreopsis, if one has a very mixed border, the rich yellows, browns and crimsons of this flower are very good. But unless the border is preëminently yellow, orange or red, there will be difficulty in setting or sowing this plant where it looks well. So beware of coreopsis—think carefully before this seed is added to your list. If you like it, sow this now.

FEBRUARY 19. Nigella Miss Jekyll, in successive sowings, is one of the nicest of the blue annuals; six packets of this seed are none too many for even a small garden. Silene, the catchfly, in the pinkish tones is a good associate for the nigella.

FEBRUARY 20. The one thing no garden can be without is the annual larkspur; and a plentiful supply of such varieties as Rosy Scarlet and Blue (which is not blue at

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all, but a very deep rich violet) will give with successive sowings out-of-doors, a most beautiful effect in any garden. Therefore sow seed bought now, about two weeks apart, and use the violet kind most plentifully in little colonies of planting—loose groups here and there in the border or bed, letting a little of it advance to the very edge.

FEBRUARY 21. A lovely variety of snapdragon (*antirrhinum*) it is said to be The Fawn, a fine terra cotta and pale yellow combined. Such a flower would look extremely well below early delphinium such as Belladonna or near pale yellows like a good zinnia of that color.

FEBRUARY 22. Lavatera Loveliness is a wonderfully fine annual flower. Of the deepest richest rose pink, it glows in the border among other flowers and blooms freely for perhaps two or three weeks when, if flowers have not been cut, its seeds mature quickly and a little crop can be saved for the next year. The violet larkspur just mentioned and this mallow are magnificent together either in the border or in cutting.

FEBRUARY 23. Clarkias are superb annuals needing bright sun and a rich soil. Salmon Queen is a fine variety. Try setting out in May a few plants of this clarkia, and before it other plants of a tall-growing lobelia, *Lobelia tenuior ramosa*, for instance (started well ahead indoors or in the hot bed), and see if you have ever had anything more agreeable than this to look at in your garden.

FEBRUARY 24. In buying sweet alyssum seed, try some of the lilac-hued kind. This may be rather whitish in hot

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weather, but when cool nights come the effect is very different, a good pinkish lavender, which makes an excellent foreground for rose-pink, purple or blue flowers.

FEBRUARY 25. Seed of annual phloxes should be bought now for later sowing. Chamois Rose and Isabellina are two unusually good colors; and a rich violet is to be had, which is well worth getting.

FEBRUARY 26. Petunias and pansies may be sown now in the house, or the pansies may have been sown in the August of the former year out-of-doors in a cool rather moist spot—not wet, however. Deep purple petunias are good above the lobelia Cambridge Blue, near any of the perennial statices in pale lavender, with warm pink zinnias or cool pink hardy phloxes, or above such a phlox as *drummondi* Isabellina. Everywhere the violet petunia has its perfect place. A small flowering deep violet one called Blue Alderman should be very useful for the front of the border.

FEBRUARY 27. Unless a border of scarlets and yellows is planned for, do not invest in seeds of the scarlet salvia. But if this is wanted, get seeds also of those other things that rage in harsh color, gaillardias, varied marigolds, coreopsis and the darker celosias or cockscombs. Magnificent effects can be created with all of these, but they must be carefully used when set out in the border, and an admixture of cream white zinnias and the perennial *Artemesia lactiflora* will allay their terrors for those who prefer less fierce effects.

FEBRUARY 28. If all that is seen to-day from the

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windows is "the frolic architecture of the snow" get out the catalogues, prepare and send off the final, or semi-final seed orders. One or two will already have been sent in of seeds to be started very early. Let us repeat—order early; send for all seeds as soon as you have decided upon your wants, for bulbs for fall planting in June and in June too for shrubs and perennials for September and October placing. This is vital to prevent disappointment.

FEBRUARY 29. Who is the best seedsman? Who will give us the best bulbs? These are questions eternally asked, and impossible to answer. There are now several very fine seedsmen in the country; there are at this writing few bulb growers one can recommend since the quarantine on Holland bulbs and those of other countries, though it is possible that there will be more in the near future. But the thing in which we excel as a nation, is the large and growing number of plant specialists, of the growers of the peony, the iris, the dahlia, the rose. The lists of such growers are in some cases superfine, and every gardener should get them.

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FEBRUARY

Reference and Practical Books

The Garden Month by Month—*Sedgwick.* Stokes
A Manual of Cultivated Plants—*Bailey.* Macmillan
Manual of Gardening—*Bailey.* Macmillan
The Seasons in a Flower Garden—*Shelton.* Scribner's
The Little Garden for Little Money—*Kate L. Brewster.* (*Little Garden Series*) Atlantic Monthly Press
The Garden Primer—*Tabor.* McBride
Suburban Gardens—*Tabor.* Outing Publishing Co.
Flower Gardening—*Adams.* McBride
The Practical Book of Outdoor Flowers—*Richardson Wright.* Lippincott
Standardized Plant Names—American Joint Committee, Salem, Mass.
Continuous Bloom in America—*Shelton.* Scribner's
The English Flower Garden—*Robinson.* Murray
Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture—*L. H. Bailey.* Macmillan.

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MARCH

MARCH 1. This is also the watching month, the month in which to watch the ground for the bright spears of green of daffodil and species iris, and for bloom of species tulips; for the snowdrop, the earliest crocus, the color in the stem of shrub and tree.

MARCH 2. The first injunction for every month of the year should really be this: keep a garden notebook. If this has not been started in January, with records of what has been done towards the garden if not *in* it, then this is the time to buy the book and make the first entries. An expense account can be kept, too, in such a book.

MARCH 3. Lay in now, not later, your stocks of insecticides, all those things needed for spraying and dusting. There are four or five excellent recognized sprays and insecticides for roses and other plants. Have enough of two or three of these with which to begin the season. See that the sprayer is in condition, not rusted or clogged.

MARCH 4. Seed sowing is an art in itself. An authority says that his way of doing this is to pour the seeds from their envelope into the palm of the left hand, and with the thumb and two fingers of the right, take a pinch of seed and scatter it. Of course earth must be very fine where seed is put in, also after sowing and covering to the right depth (four times the width of the seed)

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a quiet pressing down of soil with a board is a wise thing, to keep the seeds in place.

MARCH 5. In buying seeds now, pay a little more for quality, and if necessary, buy fewer seeds. The work, the care of raising plants and flowers from seed is too great to be wasted upon a disappointing flower, a flower not true to color or to kind. It is a rather sweeping statement, but where there used to be some carelessness on the part of lesser firms in labeling seeds and plants, there is little or none to-day.

MARCH 6. While sowing seeds now of annuals or perennials in either cold frames, hot beds, boxes or in open ground, be sure to have labels written and close by. The turning away of the head for one moment before labeling in sowing rows of seeds, has been known to lead to confusion and disaster.

MARCH 7. Buy to-day seed of *Salvia farinacea* and of some fine pink quickly-blooming stock such as Princess Elizabeth to "grow on," as the English gardener says, and set out colonies of these little seedlings eight or ten inches apart in the bed or border in late May. In July or August, there will be a wonderful harvest of beauty where these two things are.

MARCH 8. If seed of perennials is sown now, it will germinate at any time from a week to two months. "Pricking-out" should be done as soon as a seedling has four leaves. This means taking out the tiny plantlets with a little ball of earth and transferring them to three-inch pots

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or flats. Unless this moving is done, and at this time of development, the plant will not be strong.

MARCH 9. Invest in plenty of fine Shirley poppy seed now and sow it among daffodils. As the leaves of these are withering, the green or green-blue of the poppies will cover it, and the flowers of the poppies provide a nice screen of color for the drying daffodil foliage.

MARCH 10. If there is an unused garden spot to be remade, this is the time for such work. As soon as frost has gone and the ground has become fairly dry, spread manure over such spaces, and dig it in deep. If the soil is sour, add lime or wood ashes; if heavy, sand; if sandy, clay or leaf mold or both; and dig and dig again.

MARCH 11. From now on when the season of flower shows begins, usually in New York during this month, never miss a flower show. And never visit one without a notebook. If you are able, travel any distance to see a fine show. If not, then go to those that almost come to you. This is an important part of a gardening education.

MARCH 12. Start flower shows now in your own village, town or city. This is the month for organizing. You will be a much more accomplished leader in such things if you have exhibited in other shows and you will always be agreeably surprised in starting such affairs in your locality, to see how quick and eager is the response you get from neighbors and friends—and even from enemies.

MARCH 13. As soon as the snow is gone, or indeed if there is still a thin covering of snow, scatter old well-

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rotted manure over the lawn. If this cannot be had, then get one of the lawn fertilizers of the seed lists. If manure is used, let this lie for several weeks so that rains can wash its strength into the earth, then rake before the young grass gets high, and give a dressing of bone meal after the raking is over.

MARCH 14. Look over the garden hose in this month, and if it has not been rolled on a reel, inspect it carefully at the points where it has hung on hooks. Rubber has a way of giving out unexpectedly. If hose is not on a reel during the winter, it is much better coiled on the floor of the tool house than hung, as it usually is, to get it out of the way.

MARCH 15. Also inspect the tool-shed now and take inventory. Find out what tools will no longer be of use, which are broken and need mending, and whether any need an application of emery paper or other rust-removing agent. See that all plant labels are collected, tied or wrapped together; that the lawn mowers are in perfect shape, the knives sharp and ready for use in early April if the season is advanced.

MARCH 16. If you have no actual tool-shed, and very little room for one, consult to-day Fletcher Steele's "Design in the Little Garden" for information of a practical kind on making a tool-house and fence or screen, combined. Here will be found a diagram of this interesting erection drawn to scale.

MARCH 17. Look over the beds and borders. See what plants have not survived the winter; which look still

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uncertain, and if you need fresh stock, order it without a moment's delay. It is very late now to send in orders for perennials, especially as the nurseries now are put to it to keep up with the demand.

MARCH 18. Buy seed of a petunia called Pink Glory whose color is said to be far finer than that of Rosy Morn. Also plan for plenty of *Salvia farinacea*, that fine annual so useful in combination with almost all other flowers in the border.

MARCH 19. Look over and mend garden gloves now. If new ones are needed, get them before spring pruning operations begin. An English firm offers a capital closed leather glove for women, with a short gauntlet which is a true protection.

MARCH 20. Other annuals whose seed may now be sown in the hot bed. are annual larkspur and snapdragon, marigold and the lovely new wallflower *Cheiranthus allioni*, so very hardy in the north and of so fine an orange color. Zinnias get a good start if at least part of the seed is started indoors or in heat.

MARCH 21. In late March sow sweet peas out-of-doors, and among the varieties bought do not fail to get these for colors and beautiful forms; Hawlmark Salmon-Pink, Electric, Hawlmark Lavender, Bluestone, New Wedgwood, Miss Philadelphia, Burpee's Electric, Barbara, Powerscourt, Jack Cornwell, Sapphire. For these, be sure that you have rich ground ready and a fresh situation.

MARCH 22. Speaking of digging, this quotation is in order to-day from "The Guild of the Garden Lovers,"

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by Constance O'Brien. "It's impossible to make some people understand that digging does not come by nature."

"Yes," I said, "they always say 'anybody can *dig*' when they want you to take an 'unemployed' into the garden. My friend gave a gasp. 'My dear,' she said, 'I hope I'm not a stingy or hard-hearted woman towards people in distress (she really is extraordinarily liberal and would give away her last farthing) 'but don't let anybody persuade you that it is charitable to let a man pretend to do work of which he knows nothing. It's a waste of your money which you might use in better ways—and it is an injury to the man because you are encouraging him to take pay for bad work.' "

MARCH 23. With the first spraying of apples, spray now also all lilacs, Japanese quinces, Asiatic crabs and cherries and anything that is subject to scale.

MARCH 24. Roses can be partly uncovered in this month, but as in the case of bulbs, the leaves and straw should be left to one side for use in a sudden cold snap. Never fail to have them close by throughout this month in the latitude of Boston, as great losses may result when cold weather quickly follows warm.

MARCH 25. Look after roses now. Roses, says Mr. Stevens in "Roses in the Little Garden," should be pruned as soon as the covering is off and the ground dry enough to work. Take off with a sharp knife all dead or bruised wood, and leave the "clean straight growth of last season." Cut back very long shoots a quarter or a third, weak ones entirely. The stronger growing the rose, the less pruning

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it needs and vice versa. This advice taken almost verbatim from the book named, applies to bush roses only.

MARCH 26. The pruning of climbing roses is simple. Cut very little in the spring, only taking out dead or weaker wood; but after the crop of roses is faded, cut out at the base every cane that has flowered. Then feed the plant well with bone meal or other good stimulant and tie the rapidly growing canes of this year's growth carefully into position.

MARCH 27. Light branches of flowering shrubs such as forsythia and double-flowering peach can be brought into the house now and placed in water for forcing; small twigs of the Asiatic cherries, such as *subhirtella*, will also bloom in the house if growth has started a little out-of-doors.

MARCH 28. In the latitude of New York and if you are a believer in spring planting of roses, the end of this month is the time to plant them. But the order should have gone in long before or one of those bitter disappointments awaits those who postpone too long.

MARCH 29. If the dividing and replanting of such hardy things as valerian, *Physostegia*, *Hemerocallis* and phlox has not been done in the autumn, do it now, as soon as the ground is not only free from frost, but fairly dry.

MARCH 30. If the last part of March is warm, and the ground in proper condition—that is, entirely free from frost and fairly dry—trees, shrubs, climbing vines and certain fruits may be planted now. Around Philadelphia and

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New York, this can usually be done in March. In the latitude of Boston, April is the proper time.

March 31. Use no knife or shears on such shrubs as spiræa, lilac, *philadelphus*, forsythia during the month, or you will lose their flowers. It cannot be too often said that the time for pruning such things is when they are in bloom, or just after. Flowers of these shrubs are borne on the new wood made in the previous year.

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MARCH

Books on Spring Flowers

Handbook of Crocus and Colchicum—*E. A. Bowles.* Martin Hopkinson

Hardy Bulbs for Amateurs—*Jacob.* Country Life Library

Tulips—*Jacob.* Stokes

Daffodils—*Jacob.* Stokes

Spring Flowers at Belvoir Castle—*Divers.* Longmans.

My Garden in Spring—*E. A. Bowles.* Jack

NOTES

APRIL

April 1. Remember and be thankful for the fact that Northern America is said by gardeners of other countries to have the finest of all outbursts of spring bloom in tree and shrub and vine. Do not be discouraged by cold winds in April. They are better than the warm ones in the colder climates during this month.

April 2. If in the earlier months little thought has been given to planting for succession of bloom, concentrate upon this now. It is one of the most important considerations of flower gardening. And such a book as Miss Jekyll's "Color in the Flower Garden," gives sound and practical advice toward this, as well as certain others published in this country.

April 3. Divide roots of perennials now, and replant or give away. There is always somebody who needs these extra bits if you have them. Think well as you replace the divisions kept, of heights and colors of the plants you are handling. They are the colors of your palette and should be used as with a brush.

April 4. For June color, plant *Digitalis ambigua*, the pale buff perennial foxglove, with geum Mrs. Bradshaw among the other plants. An interesting suggestion from the same authority as the above, is the use of the early single black-maroon peony Mrs. Key, near *Iris flavescens*.

April 5. For taller effects plant now some of the yellow *Thermopsis carolinana*. These bloom in middle or

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late June, and should have near them tall delphiniums of paler and deeper blues. Below these for later bloom, some fine phloxes should be placed, such combinations as Elizabeth Campbell, Mme. Paul Dutrie, Rheinlander, Mrs. Jenkins, Tapis Blanc and Le Mahdi.

April 6. Start seeds of many annuals to-day in hot bed or in the house. As soon as certain perennials show their green above the ground—phloxes, delphiniums, physostegia, for example—these may be either divided or reset, with very little check to growth. And remember that by lifting hardy phloxes and replacing them in the same spots, you can delay the time of bloom at least a week.

April 7. Notice to-day that both myrtle and crocuses will do well near and under trees and shrubs. If the latter are specially quick-growing and voracious, the crocuses may after a few years die out, but the experiment, especially in new places with young plantings, is well worth trying.

April 8. Crocuses will now be found in the borders. Watch for them. A happy arrangement of these is in the following order: Kathleen Parlow, Mikado, *purpurea grandiflora*, Julia Culp and Largest Yellow. If these grow through or among the common dark-green myrtle the effect will be enchanting.

April 9. Notice now, how in certain places *Scilla siberica* is beautifully used with *Crocus purpurea grandiflora*. These small bulbs should be bought in as large quantities as possible or if large quantities are not possible, then a few dozen of each, and so planted in October as to run into each other like little woodland groups.

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April 10. Very fine newer varieties of crocus which should be tried are Queen of the Blues, a soft ageratum-blue with light margin and very large flower; Blizzard, white with a blue base; General Vetter, pale lilac striped or feathered with white; and Velvet, a very deep color. Do not for one moment think that in these crocus descriptions blue means blue.

April 11. Move evergreens. Don't wait till May for this as is often suggested, but move them in middle or late April. After they are in their new position, spray each tree with water every morning and evening, for two or three weeks, keeping the roots wet only if the season is dry. This is the very best precaution against loss.

April 12. All evergreens may be planted as soon after the middle of this month as possible, and this means not only the narrow-leaved kinds, spruce, arborvitæ and the rest, but the broad ones, such as rhododendrons and kalmia. Remember, however, that these two are only to be used where lime is not in the soil.

April 13. Of all vital things to remember and practice in planting both roses and evergreens, this is that one: Don't expose the roots to even one whiff of wind, to even a ray of sun. These roots must be kept moist every moment that they are out of the earth. If it is impossible to plant at once when received from the nursery, heel these things in. Dig a trench, lay the roots in it, cover well, and if dry, water.

April 14. Look over any woodwork about the garden, such as trellises, pergolas and so on. See if posts have

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rotted at their base during the winter, and have these repaired now. In late April, or early May, if danger from frost is past, these things may be painted. Certain dull greens are agreeable colors for garden seats, and one or two tones of blue most carefully chosen, are charming in a trellis or other garden accessory, always the color of the house to be considered.

April 15. In northern states the early part of April is the time in which to get all of the garden or border cleared of rubbish. Leaves or straw that remain after the March uncovering can be raked away now; sticks, stones, all the bits of disagreeable looking stuff that accumulate with late winter and early spring storms, can be taken off before spading or forking begins.

April 16. Grass edges should be trimmed now, and the first mowing of the grass be done, according to the weather. A wonderful new kind of shears much easier to handle than the common grass shears because the handle is above the two knives, is now on the market. The clipping of edges and long grass in corners and against stone or brick will be made a much easier thing by this invention.

April 17. Roll the lawn now; add more fertilizer if needed; and fill up any holes with good black earth, scattering grass seed on this. Any visible weeds may be taken out at this time with less trouble than when they are older.

April 18. Unless roses have been planted in the autumn, now is the time to set them. A fine rich soil with good drainage and plenty of sun and air give the best conditions for roses. There should be no discouragement about

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situations, however, for roses are known to flourish in a little shade and sometimes near tree roots, but not the roots of elms or poplars.

April 19. In buying roses now, go to a nursery of established reputation. Though you may be successful with plants on their own roots, the budded or grafted plants are considered better to-day.

April 20. Here, to plant now, is an excellent general list of hybrid tea roses from an authority. Try some or all of these: Betty Uprichard, Etoile de France, General Superior Arnold Janssen, George C. Waud, Grange Colombe, Konigin Carola, Lady Alice Stanley, Lady Ashtown, Mme. Caroline Testout, Mme. Léon Pain, Mrs. Aaron Ward, Mrs. Henry Morse, Rose Marie, Souvenir de H. A. Verschuren.

April 21. Climbing roses should not be left out of any garden. There is always a suitable place for them, but if possible they should be used where green predominates. Milky Way, Excelsa, Aviateur Bleriot, Emily Gray, Paul's Scarlet Climber, Dr. Van Fleet, Silver Moon, Mary Wallace, Coralie, Ghislaine de Féligonde, Zephirine Drouhin; all are beautiful and at least some of them should be planted now.

April 22. All the wondrous combinations of flowers for late summer should be arranged for now and put in. Among these are *Physostegia virginica rosea* (False-dragonhead), phlox Mrs. Jenkins, *Artemesia lactiflora*, *Lavatera* Loveliness (seed) and ageratum, *Campanula curpatica*. The arrangement given is from back to front.

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April 23. Order now if you haven't them already, a few plants of *Physostegia virginica rosea*, of the beautiful hollyhock Exquisite, of some tall delphiniums, of Buddleia, of *Echinops ritro* (the Globethistle) for the back of the border. Invest in some gray-leaved plants, such as *Stachys lanata, Nepeta mussini, Elymus arenarius* for the border's edges, this last to be used very sparingly.

April 24. This is the planting time for Japanese anemone and Lombardy poplars. These things cannot be transplanted in autumn with any hope of success; and in buying the anemone, be sure to hunt for and get the glorious white Géante des Blanches.

April 25. Before the beautiful annual mallow, lavatera Loveliness, use heliotrope and ageratum, with a few groups of gladiolus myrtle near by. This is not an original suggestion, but from one who knows how to plant beautifully.

April 26. If there are some large lavender (*Lavendula veris*) bushes in your garden, plant to-day among and around them, bulbs of *Lilium monadelphum sovitzianum* for a beautiful effect in July and August. The lavender should be old and rather high for the effect.

April 27. Plant now Michaelmas daisies (hardy asters) for late flowers. Mrs. D. Mitchell is a lovely three-foot plant with pinkish-mauve flowers; King of the Belgians, a beauty, taller and quite bluish; Maggie Perry of a clear cool pink; St. Egwin, two feet, with a million tiny flowers on every plant. Dahlias, especially the white and pink Mignon type, are the things to neighbor these.

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April 28. If there are moles in the neighborhood of the garden, a good remedy for them is said to be this: get crystals of calcium cyanide, make openings in the mole-runs with a pointed stick and fill these holes with crystals, covering at once with earth. Be sure to wear leather gloves while doing all this.

April 29. The last chance for getting and sowing flower seeds is here now. Look over your lists, inspect hot bed or cold frame to see what has perished and what must therefore be sown again.

April 30. Seeds of most annuals may be put into the ground now, but watch the weather. If the season is particularly wet and cold, common sense bids the gardener not to expose a small weak thing like a seed to its severities. Think of a seed as you would of any young and delicate thing and favor it with what it needs for starting. Never sow or plant anything out of doors exactly as this book says, or as any other. Use your own judgment after reading of others' experience.

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APRIL

Books on Garden Color

Color Schemes in the Flower Garden—*Gertrude Jekyll*, V. M. H. Scribner's
House and Garden—*Jekyll*. Longmans
Wood and Garden—*Jekyll*. Longmans
Flower Groupings in English, Scotch and Irish Gardens—*Margaret Waterfield*. Dutton
Garden Color—*Waterfield*. Dutton
Garden-Making—*Rehmann*. Houghton Mifflin
Adventures in My Garden and Rock Garden—*Louise Beebe Wilder*. Doubleday, Page

NOTES

MAY

MAY 1. Do not let one spring pass without a *Viburnum carlesi* beside your door. This beauteous low shrub from Korea has in May in the coldest climates a lovely cluster of pink buds and white flowers at the tip of every twig. The fragrance is beyond words delicious. Do without some inanimate object, but never fail to own and enjoy this shrub.

MAY 2. Start a trial garden now. New and unusual plants, or merely unfamiliar ones have their place here. New and rare seeds may be sown in this place. Have this bit of ground either in some obscure spot, or so hedged or fenced that it will not be conspicuous. A trial garden saves many disappointments, and will eventually create many lovely pictures in the border or beds.

MAY 3. Air the hot bed daily now, unless the weather should suddenly change to a frosty type. Such airing hardens the plants and prepares them better to stand the check of transplanting late this month. Always choose a dull day for this last garden operation.

MAY 4. A pretty French way in which to grow sweet peas beginning to-day, is this: take four twelve-inch pots and fill with extra good earth, rich and fine. Sow seven groups of sweet peas, three seeds in a spot, at even intervals around edges of pot. Thrust in, beside each group, a slim bamboo stake, six feet long, and tie these together at top.

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Spread them by tying each rod, at a point about half way down from the top, to a galvanized wire ring eighteen inches in diameter. Keep these pots well watered, give them sun, and train by tying the vines in an upward spiral outside of the bamboo stalks. Pots and vines are very decorative objects to use as accents in the garden or on a terrace.

MAY 5. The handsome cream-white *Galtonia candicans* may be planted now. An attractive suggestion seen lately for a companion for this plant is Shirley poppies sown above these tubers when they are planted. This should give a remarkably pretty effect in the border.

MAY 6. There should be in bloom among the bulbs some of the fine prostrate things, such as the hardy yellow alyssum (*A. saxatile*) sown in those spots in the July before; rich purple and mauve aubrietias, such as Dr. Mules and Mrs. Lloyd Edwards; creeping phloxes, and many, many forget-me-nots of varying kinds and names. Take out the notebook, write in it: "Sow seeds of all these things in July where they are to flower next May."

MAY 7. The double white arabis now in bloom, is so much more interesting in form than the single and so much more difficult to obtain, that notes should be made now as to securing more of this charming flower, so effective below tulips. The cuttings, about three inches long, should be taken in July, set in very sandy loam in a tray or box, shaded at first and lightly watered till they are strong enough for transplanting in autumn to a permanent place.

MAY 8. Various lilies may be planted now though fall

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is better. *Auratum, regale,* and *speciosum* are the three indispensables, though the Madonna lily (*candidum*) where it does well, is of course a great and treasured beauty; and such lilies as the nankeen lily (*L. testaceum*) and *L. henryi* are much to be desired. The tall orange lilies, such as *elegans* and *superbum* are very fine in groups with the common elder and among lavender and white phloxes and with *Artemesia lactiflora.*

MAY 9. Sow now, if these have not been started in heat beforehand, seeds of snapdragon, annual phlox, sweet alyssum, the candytufts (lilac and white), dwarf early cosmos and zinnias, also of marigold. Seed of the lovely *Salvia farinacea* should have been sown early in boxes, as this is an annual without which the garden should not be.

MAY 10. Gladioli may have been planted in April for early bloom, but for succession plant more now. These look well and do well in open ground among peonies; but if wanted for special effects in the border, here are some excellent colors and kinds: Byron L. Smith, Baron Hulot, Halley, Mrs. Francis King, Niagara, Albania, Elizabeth Tabor, Le Maréchal Foch, Herada, Gold and Golden Measure, Mrs. Dr. Norton and Rose Ash. This is a mere suggestion of what can be had.

MAY 11. Like lilies, peonies and other bulbs, gladioli should not have fresh manure too near them. Make the first planting of these beautiful things in late April as soon as ground is ready. Make a second to-day. Other good varieties beside those already mentioned are: Mrs. H. E. Bothin, Captain Ferber, Etendard, Charlemagne, Mrs. J. K.

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Armsby, Sovereign, Martha Washington, Mrs. Leon Douglas.

MAY 12. Spraying and some pruning should be done now; the former to keep pests and fungi down, and the latter because the wood that has borne flowers is now old wood and should be cut away in order to allow young wood to gain strength.

MAY 13. If there has been hollyhock rust in the garden, spray the small leaves of young plants this month with ammoniacal carbonate of copper or some other recommended fungicide. In spite of the deterrent of rust, do not fail to grow a few hollyhocks for the back of the border.

MAY 14. All roses should now get weekly cultivating, preferably after rain. As early as this, spray the young leaves of roses with some reputable mixture against aphis. Spring or fall planting of roses in cold climates is a much discussed question, but many authorities seem to consider autumn planting better, even for hybrid teas. Do not fail if planting either then or now, to include Duchess of Wellington among your roses.

MAY 15. Now and in June, according to your latitude, prune your spiræas, lilacs, both hybrid and species, *philadelphus* or mock-orange, and other flowering shrubs by cutting for decorative purposes. In this way two objects are accomplished—the pruning and the getting of flowers for the house or table.

MAY 16. To grow annual asters well in the open from seed, dig deep, adding two or three inches of well-rotted

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stable manure, and rake the top soil well. If planting is done in rows, have these a foot apart, and sow the seeds two inches apart in the rows, and half an inch deep. Cover again and firm the earth above the seeds. Label carefully. In good seasons outside sowing should bring fine flowers by fall.

MAY 17. Disbud most of your peonies now; that is, of a cluster of buds, cut off all but the larger central one. Certain varieties, however, are considered more beautiful if left alone to flower as they will. Among these are Alsace Lorraine and La Rosière.

MAY 18. Notebook and pencil in hand, look at peonies everywhere now, and make notes for orders which should be sent off not later than July if you expect to get exactly what you want in these glorious flowers. A good plan is to write down names of your favorites as you see them, then consult Mrs. Harding's invaluable books and compare your lists with hers before ordering.

MAY 19. If still planting evergreens, there are these things to remember: keep the roots moist; make the hole twice as wide as the spread of the roots; dig deep—two and a half feet is not too much; set the tree in this hole at the proper depth; replace the loose soil tramping it down; and always let the top layer of earth remain loose and slope inward toward the tree.

MAY 20. Divide at this time hardy asters (Michaelmas daisies). Take only the young growths around the outside of the crowns. Throw the rest away. It is these young plants, sturdy and full of vitality, that will grow

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best and bear the finest crops of flowers in late summer and autumn.

MAY 21. Various summer-flowering bulbs may be planted now. Be very cautious in the use of cannas in the small garden. One or two, perhaps, such as the beautiful flame pink, Mrs. Alfred Conard, may be used as points of light in a group; but not more than this, as the great leaves are a disturbing factor in a picture of hardy flowers, and the stiff form is difficult to manage well.

MAY 22. Hardy asters or Michaelmas daisies are among the cheapest things to grow. They increase almost violently, and need dividing every year at about this time. For the small garden the New England asters are unwieldy; grow the branching and rather low types; and always in early July or late June, sow seeds of double blue cornflowers in groups among these beauties of lavender and violet and mauve for rich effect of color.

MAY 23. Sow seed now of the beautiful pale yellow œnothera, Afterglow, at the back of the border near *Physostegia*. A group of these two with *Artemesia lactiflora* and the little annual sunflower known as Primrose Stella, will make August well worth waiting for.

MAY 24. Set out dahlias now, but protect well against possible frosts. Two magnificent combinations for late summer and autumn bloom are dahlia Autumn King with *Aster tataricus* and dahlia Mina Burgle and *Bocconia*, the plume poppy. Water dahlias well in dry weather.

MAY 25. Species lilacs are wonderfully interesting. If there is room, get a few of these; if there is no room,

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get one or two, and if there is room for but one, get *Syringa sweginzowi superba*, or *Syringa oblata* for its crimson leaves in October, the only lilac to color so.

May 26. If frost has now touched the lilacs when almost in full bloom, get up early in the morning and spray the flowers with cold water from the hose. This will often save this loveliest of all crops of flowers. It is hard to see such things perish just before the time of highest beauty.

May 27. Make notes to-day of the lilacs to order now for next October. Wonderfully fine ones for grouping according to color are these: pinkish, Frau Anton Buchner, President Fallières, Montaigne; deep mauve Danton, President Poincaré, Maréchal Lannes, Marceau, Milton. For contrasts in color these pairs: Thunberg, Maréchal Lannes; Jarry-Desloges, Danton; Marceau, Macrostachya; Diderot, Jarry-Desloges; Fallières, Gentil; Montaigne, Danton; Coerulea, Gilbert and Macrostachya.

May 28. Plant out all seedlings now. Geraniums, lemon-verbena and rose geranium can be safely moved to the open also, though in the Middle West, in the latitude of Boston, this is never safe till after the date above. Cover these plants if frost should come after the twenty-fifth.

May 29. Transplant late this month all seedlings, whether annual or perennial, from cold frame, hot bed or flat to the open ground. Sow mignonette at any time in May. This seed withstands cold well.

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MAY 30. A city garden, a garden in a backyard surrounded by houses, may be made either in April or at this time. Dig well, renew the soil by adding what it most needs, and rely largely for material in such a spot, upon green strong vines such as actinidia, euonymus and ampelopsis with such clipped hedges as Thunberg's barberry and spring flowering bulbs. The ailanthus, or Tree of Heaven, does well in such spots.

MAY 31. Take a part of this month if possible, and visit the Arnold Arboretum, Boston, for lilacs, Asiatic cherries, crabs, and general beauty; and Highland Park, Rochester, N. Y., for the great lilac collection. The notebooks should go, too; and while it is difficult to leave one's own garden at so interesting a time, a great enlarging of the gardening horizon is the result of such travels.

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MAY

Books on Flowering Shrubs and Trees

Aristocrats of the Garden—*Wilson.* Stratford
Handbook of Flowering Trees and Shrubs—*Notcutt.* Martin Hopkinson
London Trees—*A. D. Webster.* Swarthmore Press
America's Greatest Garden—*Wilson.* Stratford Press
The Cherries of Japan—*Wilson.* Cambridge University Press
Manual of the Trees of North America—*C. S. Sargent.* Houghton Mifflin
Dwarf Fruit Trees—*F. A. Waugh.* Orange Judd Company
Beautiful Flowering Shrubs—*Nuttall.* Cassell
A Guide to the Trees—*Alice Lounsberry.* Stokes

NOTES

JUNE

JUNE 1. It should be safe now, if not before, to set out plants of heliotrope (Royal Fragrance is a beauty), verbena, petunia and that absolute necessity, ageratum. Have plenty of some of these in reserve in flats or pots for hiding bare ground later.

JUNE 2. Look over irises everywhere now, in all possible gardens, in private collections, in nurseries. Buy at least a few new varieties. An authority on the flower gives the following among names of the best new yellow sorts: Shekinah, Clorinda, Feldspar, Carcenet, Primrose, Yellow Moon. Other beauties in lavender, bluish, pinkish and violet hues are Monsignor, Archevêque, Mlle. Schwartz, Souvenir de Mme. Gaudichau, Blue Jay, Windham, Opera, Lord of June.

JUNE 3. Take cuttings now from the beautiful early flowering spiraeas, *arguta*, *prunifolio* (the double white rosette) and *thunbergi*, and put them in hot beds which have shade. Watch these carefully, keep moist but not wet. These are three of the choicest, hardiest spring-flowering shrubs.

JUNE 4. A few long slim bamboo stakes will be found very useful now. Tall flowering stalks of delphiniums may be spliced with these when high winds break a spire in two; sweet peas, sown in groups, will be well

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upheld by these if a few strings of raffia are tied up the stakes at intervals of about a foot. These stakes are not expensive, and besides their value as tall supports for light subjects, they can be easily cut with the shears into short lengths for use with annuals.

JUNE 5. Order now your bulbs for next spring. The catalogues have come and are coming. Look at your shrubberies, survey your beds and borders with next May in mind. If you have a dark-leaved tree, such as the copper beech or some wine-dark Japanese maples, the cottage tulips Inglescombe Pink and John Ruskin with the Darwin Dream will make an interesting foreground for these.

JUNE 6. If you own a young fringe tree (*Chionanthus virginica*) whose boughs nearly touch the ground, order now to plant beneath it in irregular drifts, bulbs of *Scilla campanulata excelsior*. For the ground below the pink double flowering plum (*Prunus triloba*) the same type of planting of grape hyacinth (*muscari* Heavenly Blue) gives an effect to rejoice the eye. An interesting fact here is that the pink and blue-purple of plum and *muscari* are quickly followed in time of bloom by the Fringe-tree's white with its carpet of lavender scilla bells below; and if the plums and fringe tree happen to be neighbors, the melting of one picture into the other makes an interest in itself.

JUNE 7. For a lovely tulip combination, order now a few of each of Sir Trevor Lawrence, Mystery, Sir Harry and Dream and plant them in the order named.

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Also Clara Butt, Electra and Dream are very good together.

JUNE 8. Order now, since daffodils are forbidden, a little collection of species tulips such as the gorgeous fosteriana, the beautiful kaufmanniana, *Tulipa sylvestris*, *oculis solis* and *greigi*. Great pleasure is in store for the collector of such little-known beauties as these.

JUNE 9. A hard task should be begun now. It is the cutting off of the seed-pods of lilacs. If the trees are tall, it will require a man (a careful man, too, who will not nip off next year's flower buds) and a stepladder. If only bushes, then it is delightful to do this oneself. Have a bushel basket nearby into which you may empty your smaller basketfuls, and be sure that every seed cluster comes off.

JUNE 10. Prune flowering shrubs (those that bloom before their leaves) now, cutting off only the branches that have borne flowers, and very little beside; merely the weaker or more useless twigs and boughs that for one reason or another are better gone. Shape the bush as you prune but above all remember its own habit and form and cut to emphasize those.

JUNE 11. Keep all weeds out of rose beds, and do not allow the ground there to become hard. Feed the plants with liquid cow-manure as the first buds show color. This will give glorious flowers.

JUNE 12. Thin out new shoots of too full delphinium plants, hollyhocks and others and stake the remaining stems against wind and storms. Spray the foliage of young holly-

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hocks toward evening in dry weather from underneath and only with water, to keep off red spider. Do the same to arborvitæ for the same purpose.

JUNE 13. Spray for green fly as often as needed, watching roses and sweet peas with special care for these. Good sprays are Black Leaf 40, All-in-one, Fungtrogen, X L All, and there are others also.

JUNE 14. Watch roses carefully for that dread enemy the rose-bug. It seems that hand-picking with a can or cup of kerosene is the best remedy for these.

JUNE 15. Plant more gladioli now for September flowering. Two varieties, Captain Boynton and Golden Measure, would be most lovely among three-foot-tall hardy asters; so would Herada and Louise and Gold and the pale yellow primulinus hybrids.

JUNE 16. Give wisterias now their first pruning. Take off all side shoots or laterals, and prune back every long young growth to two eyes. This must be repeated in July and again in August. It will be found a wonderful inducement to bloom for the following year.

JUNE 17. No watering is as good as constant cultivation. Stirring the ground often about the roots of growing plants is the best treatment for them in dry weather, as well as soon after rain. Second sowings of many seeds of annuals may be made now. Annual gypsophila, cosmos, salpiglossis and annual larkspur are some of these.

JUNE 18. The applying of liquid manure is a vast

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help toward getting finer flowers and this is the time to give it to the plants in limited quantities. About a bushel of manure in a burlap bag should be hung in a barrel of water for some days. If this solution is weak, it can be poured around all plants twice a week, but if strong, not so often.

JUNE 1. Early this month begin watching your delphinium plants for signs of blight, the black blight at tips of stems; and your hardy phloxes for red spider. For the first, the best remedy though not always successful, is the mixture of lime and tobacco often recommended; for the second, a stiff fine spray of water from underneath the phlox leaves daily for some time.

JUNE 20. Cut the stems of achillea to the ground to-day if it has finished blooming: this will give a fresh mass of white flowers in a few weeks. The Pearl is a good variety. Mark the finer columbines with red thread, for seed, and sow that seed as soon as gathered, as it is very slow to germinate.

JUNE 21. Cultivate the ground afresh. Keep this idea of cultivating constantly in mind, and practice it freely. After a rain, cultivate. In dry weather, cultivate; at all times, cultivate, except around roses during September when one does not want new roots of such subjects to develop.

JUNE 22. Mark peonies to-day with wooden labels for dividing, giving, or throwing away. An opinion thus written and put into the ground beside certain plants, is a godsend in September when it is time for digging.

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JUNE 23. As peonies wither, cut every browning flower away. Do this to-day before the great petals begin falling. Basketfuls of the flowers thus cut will save a horrid litter of falling petals in the lawn or well-kept earth around the plants.

JUNE 24. Copious notes must now be made not only of peonies but of irises for while the iris in all its many varieties may be had in bloom from March to July, the great outburst is in early June with the bearded group. Among some of the finest of these for bold garden effects, named by Morrison in this country and Dykes in England, are Perfection, Nine Wells, Moonstone, Celeste, Pancroft, Mrs. Neubronner, Wyomissing, Caprice, Edouard Michel; and Isoline, Mrs. Allen Gray, Queen of May, Afterglow, B. Y. Morrison, Lady Foster, Prosper Laugier, Rhein Nixe, Sapphire, Wedgwood.

JUNE 25. Second sowings of seeds of certain annuals may be made now. One of the most important of these is annual larkspur in violet or purple, mistakenly called blue in the lists. This, with its sister flowers of warm pink, are invaluable plants for August and September effects.

JUNE 26. Staking must now be looked after as in a good season flowers shoot up in rapid fashion. The best stake for delphiniums is, if one has it, tall brush such as is used for high-growing garden peas. Miss Jekyll follows this method with delphiniums in her garden, and it is effective and practically unseen. A remarkable new stake called the Farm and Garden stake, is the galvanized wire

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one in three heights, by means of which with two motions, a push and a pinch, a lily stalk, a delphinium head of moderate height, or a spray of clarkia or other annual, is supported in a delightful way.

JUNE 27. Cut flowers now from the garden in bud —that is, as the buds are opening—and in the early morning or the cool of evening. Do this at least twenty-four hours before you use them; plunge into water deep enough to cover the stems and most of the leaves, and keep in a dark, cool place till ready for arranging or packing to send away.

JUNE 28. If you have place for a seed bed, prepare it now: a slightly raised, boarded-off place in part shade, where a good mixture of loam, old manure and a little sand can be laid. When this is ready, you are ready for the first seed that ripens such as that of a fine sweet-william. Sow in short rows in the bed, thinly, and label each row at the same end. Keep this seed moist but not wet; and here your judgment and the weather play the two important parts.

JUNE 29. Look carefully through the borders and beds for drying leaves of early flowering bulbs such as scillas and chionodoxas and for the larger leaves of tulips and of daffodil, and take these out if thoroughly brown and dry. Otherwise they must be left to mature. Never cut the tops off plants of fritillaries (crown imperials). This will ruin the bulb. Let the whole stalk dry and remove when a touch brings it.

JUNE 30. If there is a suitable storage place, dry,

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dark and cool in which to keep them, it is well to dig the tulips and daffodils after the leaves have turned completely brown and dry, and store those till October. If not, then pull off the leaves when they come at a touch, not before, and be very careful in sowing over them, or planting among them, not to hurt the bulbs with trowel or spade.

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JUNE

Books on the Rose

The Rose in America—*McFarland*. Macmillan
Roses in the Little Garden—*Stevens*. (*Little Garden Series*) Atlantic Monthly Press
Roses for All American Climates—*Thomas*. Macmillan
The Book of the Rose—*Francis Parkman*. Tilton
The Practical Book of Outdoor Rose Growing—*Thomas*. Lippincott
Roses—*The Garden Library*. Doubleday, Page & Co.

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JULY

JULY 1. A refrain which may well begin about this time and be carried on through every month of summer and autumn is—cut off all withering or dead flowers and leaves and thus give the garden or border a fresh and brilliant look. This cutting is essential about every three days on an average throughout the summer, though a little may be done daily to great advantage.

JULY 2. About this time hold a flower show. Most of the late June flowers are still in bloom, and delphiniums, rambler roses and indeed many roses themselves will still be blooming. The smallest flower-show, if well planned and beautifully arranged, is to-day a focus for immense interest on the part of many people. Hold as many as possible during the year, not forgetting shows of special flowers.

JULY 3. If sprays have proven ineffectual and black blight appears on delphiniums, take up the plants and burn them. No remedy has yet been found for this trouble, and to leave the sick plants in the border is likely to spread the disease.

JULY 4. This is the second time of "calling of the banns" for wisteria-pruning. Cut back all young tender shoots of the climber to two eyes. In dry seasons keep the roots heavily watered. An occasional treatment of liquid manure will greatly stimulate growth.

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JULY 5. Tie to-day around the stem of any plant whose seed is to be saved a few strands of the bright scarlet D. M. C. marking cotton and tie it near the seed. This will remind even yourself as you are cutting off dead-heads, to spare that stem. A rainproof cotton is needed or this danger-signal will fade and become ineffectual.

JULY 6. Watch everything for seeds. Fresh ripe seed is one of the rewards of good gardening. A practical way of collecting and labeling is a practice of my own: take the lid or underpart of a shallow small cardboard box, write *in* not *on* the bottom of this, the name of seed to be cut, and taking small scissors with you, cut and let drop into this box. This saves much time and possible confusion; and it is a simple matter to move the seed later from its box cover to its little envelope or box.

JULY 7. The small tin boxes of typewriter ribbons make excellent holders for seeds. The name of the plant can be written or typed on a slip of paper and glued (not pasted) to the top of the box. A collection of these small boxes (usually thrown into the waste-basket) well filled and well labeled, is a stimulating sight for any good gardener in winter.

JULY 8. To-day collect ripening seed of sweet-williams, hollyhocks and annual poppies and, when watering, if the weather is dry, give a tablespoonful of bonemeal to plants coming into bloom. This will greatly improve the appearance of the garden within two or three weeks.

JULY 9. If such seeds as delphinium and sweet-william are sown as soon as ripe, fine little plants will soon rise

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in their fresh green. A seed bed, made ready in June to receive such seeds, will be a treasure now. To make such a bed, mark out an oblong space, in semi-shade if possible (the north side of a grape trellis makes a capital spot for this) and be sure that drainage is good, and that some sand is mixed with the soil.

JULY 10. Take out to-day one fine root of your *Anchusa italica* Dropmore or Lissadell if you have it, and cut the whole long root into inch lengths. Plant these in sand with a little good soil mixed in, and keep them fairly moist. They will soon sprout and make fine little plants for next year's bloom.

JULY 11. Watch snapdragons (*antirrhinum*) now and as the first flower opens, cut that spike if you wish to have each plant continue to bloom. This is highly important, especially with the kind called Giant Snapdragons. Among the several varieties of these, Fordhook Rose is a beauty.

JULY 12. Who does not long for pure blue in the garden? Sow now a quantity of seed of forget-me-not for next spring's flowering. Get seed of these three varieties, *Myosotis dissitiflora*, *M.* Royal Blue, *M.* Perfection. These are early, midseason and late and a long time of bloom comes when all three are used. Sow in the place where the little plants are to bloom, and do not cut off the seed pods of old plants in June, but let them scatter a fresh crop of seed and save you trouble and expense.

JULY 13. For other enchanting blues in the garden, search for and buy now the seed of the newer *Anchusa*

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called Lissadell, also of that still newer one, Pride of Feltham. Such blues as these, they say were never seen, and a little anxiety as to getting hold of them will make a gardener's reward all the more significant. The plants are sometimes hardy and sometimes behave as biennials.

JULY 14. In sowing seed now it is vitally important to "firm" the soil above them. The earth now is apt to be dry and crumbling, not heavy and wet as for spring sowings. Therefore press down the soil carefully on all freshly sown seeds.

JULY 15. Seed of an unusually lovely salmon-colored perennial *Lychnis chalcedonica salmonea*, should be sown to-day; also seeds of violas, such as Apricot, for next year's bloom.

JULY 16. Sow many seeds of perennials now, in lines, in good earth. The earlier such seeds are sown, the finer they will be in autumn, either for moving or for enduring the rigors of winter. A few of these are: hollyhocks, aquilegia, campanula, digitalis, delphinium, sweet-william, lupine, forget-me-not and pyrethrum.

JULY 17. In ordering bulbs now remember that two hyacinths of superb and unusual color to grow together are: Oranje Boven, a pale coral pink, and Distinction, a rich wine-red. These were seen by the writer in Holland and recommended as a combination to a young gardener in this country who grew them and had a sensation.

JULY 18. Try a few of the new Mendel tulips. These are a cross between Duc Van Thols and Darwins; and for size, form, colors, they are unsurpassed. They

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can be bought now in mixture. A marvelous new white tulip originating in Haarlem is White Duchess. Some of the new late tulips beggar description. Among these are Dido, Alaska, Ambrosia, Carrara, Leda, Amber, Katherine Havemeyer, Afterglow and the old but ever new Zomerschoon.

JULY 19. It is not yet too late to put in any dahlia bulbs which have been left over from the former season, and perhaps overlooked in some dark corner. Seed of such hardy annuals as wallflower, especially the new *Cheiranthus allioni* (really a perennial), marigold migonette and coreopsis can be planted now.

JULY 20. Sow seed of hollyhocks as soon as ripe. Seed should be sown in rows one inch deep, and eight inches apart. The small plants may then be moved to permanent places in September, and well covered for winter.

JULY 21. Peg down verbenas either by means of small-forked twigs or the regular verbena pins which seedsmen supply. Stake petunias, stake delphiniums again, also dahlias, platycodons, the later campanulas. Watch lilies and support as stems grow tall.

JULY 22. Plant gladioli now for late bloom. Even if frosts come early, these can be covered lightly and will provide beauty far into September. Try Mrs. Frank Pendleton planted in rather thick but informal groups among a tall annual ageratum. Also grow Mrs. F. C. Peters, Pink Wonder, Prince of India, Jack London, and other lovely sorts too numerous to be named here.

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JULY 23. If weather is dry and the garden seems to languish, dig in bonemeal to-day, watering thoroughly afterwards. This will have a surprisingly good effect on the plants. For roses, a liquid made of cow manure and water, applied once each week, will do wonders.

JULY 24. An excellent plan and one commended by Miss Jekyll, is the keeping in reserve for dull spots in the borders, a few pots of gaily flowering geraniums, which can be whisked into place for special occasions, the pots being hidden by foliage of nearby plants. The single Mrs. E. G. Hill and the white Mme. Récamier are good kinds for this expedient.

JULY 25. Sow mignonette to-day for autumn flowering, also the evening stock, *Matthiola bicornis*, not for its flower, but for its delicious fragrance in the dews of evening.

JULY 26. To-day make a special inspection of your fruit trees for suckers or water sprouts, and cut away everything of the kind, as these sprouts take the life from the tree.

JULY 27. Dahlias and gladioli may still be planted. In fact, it is a good plan to keep some dozens of bulbs of the last named out of the ground till now in order to get late bloom. Light frosts will not affect the gladiolus.

JULY 28. Look over lists of evergreens now with a view to ordering. From mid-August for a month, they may usually be transplanted with safety, *if the foliage is sprayed with water twice daily for three weeks.*

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JULY 29. Hot though it may be, do not fail to keep the garden notebook going. Any bare spots in the garden should be specified in the book now, and planting there and suggestions for fall planting made to remedy defects.

JULY 30. If weather continues dry, soak the flower borders by means of a slow-running stream from a hose whose nozzle is laid and left at a point from which water will flow downwards. Never sprinkle flowers; always water them during drought in this way, moving the hose after about two hours from one point to another. Two such soakings in the same places at intervals of a few hours, and all during one day, will give life to thirsty plant and shrub roots as nothing else but rain can do.

JULY 31. Water roses freely now if weather is dry; never with the spray attached to the hose, but always with the quiet-running stream. Rose beds should never be allowed to get over-dry in warm weather.

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JULY

Books on Special Flowers

The Book of the Dahlia—*Mrs. Charles H. Stout.* Doubleday, Page

Peonies in the Little Garden—*Mrs. Edward Harding* (*Little Garden Series*) Atlantic Monthly Press

The Primulas of Europe—*McWatt.* Country Life Library

Dahlias—*Gordon.* Stokes

Lilies—*Adams.* McBride

The Book of the Peony—*Mrs. Harding.* Lippincott

A Handbook on Garden Iris—*Dykes.* Martin Hopkinson

Annuals and Perennials—*Gertrude Jekyll, V. M. H.* Country Life Press

Pansies; Violas and Violets—*Cuthbertson.* Jack

The Iris—*John C. Wister.* Orange Judd Co.

Irises in the Little Garden—*Mrs. C. S. McKinney.* Little Brown

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AUGUST

AUGUST 1. Perhaps the vital word for August is "stake." So many plants then become a menace to themselves by their own height, bulk and weight. Stake phloxes which droop too heavily, lilies which have the same habit, dahlias, physostegias, Michaelmas daisies and other lush-growing things. Putting small twiggy bare branches into the Michaelmas daisy plants as Miss Jekyll suggests, is a capital plan for these spreading, many-stemmed plants. If this is done early, and the branch run into the ground at an angle leaning forward, the plant will soon wipe out by its growth all trace of support.

AUGUST 2. Seeds of many perennials may be sown to-day; delphiniums, gypsophilas in three varieties and many other such seeds. The catalogues help here as they do everywhere. Consult these constantly and plan for extra things to fill vacant spaces among perennials, for these new plants if large enough should be set in late September to be established by winter.

AUGUST 3. Sow now the seed of forget-me-not of various kinds (all biennial) over any bare spots where bulbs are known to be. Do this preferably before rain. Watch for seed in the borders now with an eagle eye. Sweet-williams, clarkias, the spiral mignonette, hollyhocks and delphiniums will now be setting seed. Seeds of annuals must be kept till the next spring. The sooner all perennial

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seeds are in the ground after ripening, the better will be the prospect of a crop of plants therefrom.

August 4. Makes notes now of your phlox varieties, of what to take out and what colors and heights to secure for following seasons. Among the finest of all pinks in phloxes are Elizabeth Campbell, Mme. Paul Dutrie, Selma, Rheinlander, Mrs. Milly Van Hoboken, Pantheon, Nordlicht, W. C. Egan.

August 5. Pansies for keeping over winter in the cold frame or out-of-doors, should be sown to-day. Many beautiful strains of seed are now named in the summer seeds lists, and while foreign seeds of this flower are notably fine, so also is the seed of a well-known American raiser at Portland, Oregon.

August 6. Plant to-day bulbs of the Madonna lily, *L. candidum*, as these bulbs arrive early in the markets and must not be allowed to dry before setting. From these bulbs a tuft of very hardy leaves will soon rise. Cover lightly during winter. Set small plants of *Salvia sclarea* among the lilies if you prefer something newer and more interesting in combination with this lily than the eternal delphinium, beautiful though these are together.

August 7. If you are to exhibit dahlias at a show disbud now or even earlier in order to produce the finest flowers; if you plan to show hardy asters, thin out the stems to the root at about this time and carefully stake the remaining ones to keep them from blowing to the ground.

August 8. Keep a sharp lookout in garden and borders for all dead or dying foliage, old stalks of delphiniums,

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the reddish leaves that appear at the roots of sea lavender, the drying poppy plant and the crisp brown iris leaf. Have a convenient basket in the garden for these days, and shears concealed about your person.

AUGUST 9. Tie up sweet peas and watch carefully for green fly at their tips. If left, these suck the life out of the plants.

AUGUST 10. If you have any plants of lavender, that delightful herb, you should propagate from them now. Munstead is the best variety. Take pieces about ten or twelve inches long, each with a bit of root, and set in earth well mixed with sand. These will root quickly and in the spring can be transplanted to final positions. Short tip cuttings are also good in sand.

AUGUST 11. Shearing of low-growing plants may be done now if it has not been in July. Lavender, sweet alyssum, cerastium, nepeta, all these will benefit by a moderate—not drastic—cutting back.

AUGUST 12. If delphinium bloom is still left in the garden, prolong this as long as possible. Cut off the spikes of seed-pods as they appear, and leave every smallest side-shoot which has buds to burst into blue flower. This practice will give blue to the garden border at a time when blue is scarce and when, with early white phloxes, the yellow *Hemerocallis thunbergi* and gypsophilas, small spikes of blue held above the heads of the other perennials will give a good effect.

AUGUST 13. Keep a notebook close at hand during this month, specially, and to-day use the pencil freely with re-

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gard to notes of color arrangement of flowers, both as it is and as it should be. It may be a good plan to have a page or two now divided into two columns, one headed "Bad" and the other "Good." Here will be food for winter thought.

AUGUST 14. To-day take a light chair, and notebook in hand, sit for a few moments at least in three or four different places in the garden. Look critically at the various vistas and effects, the over-abundance of bloom in one place, the lack of it in another, the absence of a background of green, the general aspect of the beds or borders. Make notes from every position you occupy and carry out your fresh ideas now by ordering what is needed and by planning for September and October movings.

AUGUST 15. Transplant delphiniums now, if September is to be very busy, as these are cut down at least two-thirds after blooming. They will feel no check, in fact will become better settled for winter if moved in August.

AUGUST 16. Move bearded irises (*I. germanica*) now, being careful not to plant these too deep, and to set them in well-drained ground. A little shade, especially in warmer climates, will prevent the fading of the more delicate flowers; and planting of small trees such as flowering crabs, among irises, is recommended to keep off the too hot rays of the sun.

AUGUST 17. Clean the garden. Cut off all seed-pods not tied with the scarlet thread (the mark for seed-saving) dropping the seed-pods into marked tin boxes of any kind. Watch for weeds. A wild lettuce, a plantain

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or a pusley will steal a march on the best gardener if a constant lookout is not kept.

August 18. At this time take a few days for garden visits. Go not only to those in your immediate neighborhood, but if on visits in other localities, ask at once about the best gardens, and see these without fail. Compare your own with these, and resolve on improvements through such comparisons.

August 19. Evergreens ordered well ahead, can be planted now. In moving those already in your ground, be sure that roots are not exposed to the air for even one minute. Digging with a ball of earth, and carrying with burlap wrapped well around this, will keep roots moist when transplanting.

August 20. Look daily now among your flowers for dead or dying leaves, fallen stems, yellowing phlox stalks, annual mallows gone to seed, and with their round leaves acquiring an ugly edge of yellow. Take out or pull up all of these things. Keep the garden sightly. If it is well-groomed by your own hand, it will look almost as fresh as in June.

August 21. If one flower predominates over another in August, it is the hardy phlox. See to it that you have at least a few varieties of these in even the smallest garden; and if all others must be excluded, plant these in the order in which they are here given, one variety beyond another in loose groups of three to five plants of each: Tapis Blanc, white, Elizabeth Campbell, warm pink;

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Mme. Paul Dutrie, pale pink; E. Danzanvilliers, lavender; Le Mahdi, reddish purple.

August 22. Given a waste space in which to grow bulbs, it is now that the earth there should be prepared for October planting. A sandy loam with leaf mold added is about the best composition for spring flowering bulbs; and a little bonemeal scattered over the whole just before an autumn rain will help to make finer flowers.

August 23. Make your preparations now for bulb-setting. As in all gardening, once again, the plan is the first step. The slightest sketch showing what bulbs are to be set near each other, how they are to intermingle, what lesser bulbs are to be planted with tulips and daffodils, will save endless puzzlings and delay when the brown paper sacks are lying on the ground filled with bulbs.

August 24. If you are in a part of the country where anemones flourish, order some bulbs now of the lovely St. Bavo anemone from Holland. These are far finer in variety of color than the average French anemone. When planted with purple tulips, *Scilla campanulata* Excelsior, and bright yellow daffodils the effect is very gay.

August 25. Keep the phlox roots well watered during a dry July and August and never fail to cut off the faded flowers as they appear. This is, to use the Shorter Catechism term, a work of necessity. But it is a work of mercy to one's garden too, for by practicing it, the plants continue to bloom from the axils of the leaves and rich colors will then brighten the border till long after the first frosts.

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August 26. Pick flowers daily. If you want your roses to grow into large bushes however, cut with only three-inch stems for two or three years after planting. Zinnias, pansies, pinks, need constant cutting to encourage bloom. Sweet peas of course will not continue to flower if not cut daily or almost as often.

August 27. If bare spots occur now in the garden, due to the pulling up of annual poppies or for other reasons, transplant trowelfuls of such mignonette as Bismarck or Machet, sown earlier in another place. The ground will soon be covered with green and on cool September and October evenings, the fragrance will be an unlooked-for pleasure.

August 28. The most lovely little border or edging in flowers can be had now if in spring one has ordered seeds of *Lobelia ramosa tenuior* and *Verbena venosa*. These should be started early in April in trays or boxes, and planted out as soon as danger from frost is past. The lobelia is much freer in growth than the dwarf, yet free-flowering too; and its purple-blue flowers are delightful overhanging the edge of a little brick walk or gravel path, with the red-purple of the gay verbena flower above.

August 29. Pick out from the plants all brown and dead leaves of iris, and cut off to the green, all leaves that are half-brown. This is work indeed, but it will reward the gardener by giving his borders a clean and well-kept look.

August 30. From now until October, grass seed may be sown, and if just before a rain, so much the better.

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If drought has hurt your lawn, rake the bare spots, work in a little bonemeal, and sow grass seed. Remember, too, that a windless day is the best for such sowing; and unless rain comes soon afterwards, give the sown places a quiet sprinkling with the hose.

AUGUST 31. Keep the grass of the garden cut but if weather is dry, not too often. Do not "edge" in dry weather. Leave the grass at edges of borders or walks to form a protection for its roots from sun, in dry times, though your tidy ideas may rebel against this suggestion. It will pay in the end. Mow the lawn each time in a different direction; first north to south, next east to west, then repeat, and do not lift the clippings. There is no doubt about it, this improves turf.

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AUGUST

Books of Delight in Gardening

In My Vicarage Garden and Elsewhere—*Canon Ellacombe.* Lane

In a Gloucestershire Garden—*Ellacombe.* Arnold

Our Sentimental Garden—*A. and E. Castle.* Heinemann

Gardening by Myself—*Anna R. Warner.* Duffield

A Garden of Pleasure—"*E V B*" (*The Hon. Mrs. Boyle*). Roberts

Days and Hours in a Garden—"*E V B.*" Elliot Stock

On the Making of Gardens—*Sir George Sitwell.* Murray

The Praise of Gardens—*Sieveking.* Elliot Stock

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SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER 1. If during any month of the year in the garden imagination is to be exercised, it is in this one. Everything done now is for the future and must be seen with the mind's eye. The remaking of the border, the bed or the little formal garden, all the planting that is done, will have no present effect, but beauty, perhaps even splendor, will be the ultimate reward.

SEPTEMBER 2. Unless the weather is usually warm and summer-like, do not cultivate to-day roses or other plants, or at any time during or after this month. Everything needs to rest now and to become hardened for winter.

SEPTEMBER 3. This is the peony-planting month, and here are notes, taken from Mrs. Edward Harding's writings, as to how to plant. Prepare the ground ahead. Set the roots so that not more than two or three inches of earth shall be above them; in a lighter soil, three or three and a half inches of soil over the crown is better. Too deep planting is sometimes the reason for failure of bloom. Fresh locations, too, should be given to peony roots. Mulch during the first winter.

SEPTEMBER 4. Do not let manure touch your peony divisions or roots when first planted. Any manure in the ground for these plants should have been added and well mixed too, months before. Also, no manure even as a mulch; leaves, straw, anything but manure should form

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the winter covering. Mrs. Harding advises green crops, bonemeal and wood ashes as better than manure for fertilizing from the top, but these must be used with great care.

SEPTEMBER 5. Plant now such peonies as the following (a list of Mrs. Harding's) Avalanche, Festiva Maxima, Richardson's Grandiflora, Mme. Emile Lemoine, Marie Crousse, Mikado, M. Martin Cahuzac, Moonbeam, Primavère, Thérèse. Add Calot's Lamartine to this list, and plant Marie Crousse and Primavère beside each other.

SEPTEMBER 6. A list of daffodils to get somehow, sometime, is in place here. These are Harvest Moon, Mrs. R. O. Backhouse, Mrs. E. Martin, Umbria, Tenedos, Dulcimer, Beauty of Radnor, Homespun, Owen, Red Rim, Wide Wing.

SEPTEMBER 7. The Madonna lily (*L. candidum*) may still be planted now but *no manure*. A soil made of clay loam, sand, leaf-mold and some peat, if this can be had, is usually the best. The usual advice as to a plant to combine with the Madonna lily is a tall delphinium. This beautiful alliance of flowers is a little hackneyed now, and *Salvia sclarea*, the "clary" of old English cottage gardens is far more interesting with the lily. Try this.

SEPTEMBER 8. Use the various *hemerocallises* freely in a good-sized border. Various nice varieties can be had now with different times of flowering. Some of the best are thunbergi, citrina, flava, apricot, sieboldi. Near these, grow the rich purple perennial *Salvia virgata nemorosa*; *Iris sibirica* Perry's Blue, and back of these delphinium

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Belladonna with *Thalictrum glaucum* further to the rear.

SEPTEMBER 9. Give the dahlias a little nitrate of soda, and cut out some of the lateral shoots in order to get larger, finer flowers. If the soil is very poor, use liquid manure instead of nitrate of soda. Watch the Japanese anemone buds, and protect from frost when necessary.

SEPTEMBER 10. If in a northern climate, to-day is none too soon to drive in a few stakes among the tenderest flowers, and stretch a stout wire from stake to stake. Cloth of almost any kind can be thrown across these when frost threatens, and many good things will continue then to bloom late into the autumn.

SEPTEMBER 11. Plant all hardy garden subjects, also trees and shrubs in the autumn. A great gain in growth in spring is the result. This is the month of months for moving most garden plants. If they are transplanted early, the root system has a good chance for a thorough establishment in the soil; and even if moved late, they may be well covered for winter and will begin to grow in early spring. Begin the moving of perennials now.

SEPTEMBER 12. Set out to-day some plants of *Anchusa myosotidiflora*, the forget-me-not flowered anchusa, a most beautiful member of the borage family. This blooms sky-blue for three full weeks in May. The tulip to plant among its large round green leaves is John Ruskin. A little of that pretty mauve *Dicentra eximia* gives added interest to this planting.

SEPTEMBER 13. Sow grass seed now. Shady Lawn seed, blue grass and red top mixed, or any seed that your

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bare spaces in lawn or garden may require. Make the soil very rich and fine before sowing and sow just before a rain if possible.

SEPTEMBER 14. Stake all hardy asters at once before they bloom, especially the tall sorts such as King of the Belgians, Lil Fardell, Climax. These will quickly blow over in wind with their wealth of flowers weighing them down, and it is highly important to stake early.

SEPTEMBER 15. If the plan of your garden gives any chance for a clipped hedge, this is the time to plant one. One shrub which makes an excellent hardy hedge, but which is seldom so used, is *Spiræa vanhoutti.*

SEPTEMBER 16. Pot all chrysanthemums to-day for indoor bloom. Keep them in the pots out-of-doors till frost threatens them, then move in to a cool, light place where bloom will be surprisingly fine. Some of the better varieties for this use are Redbird, Madame Lunt, Marian Shillaber, Phyllis Tyson, Bronze Doty, Adelaide.

SEPTEMBER 17. Move irises not transplanted in August, now; and plan for one planting of a deep violet German iris, perhaps Kochi, with a bright yellow May-flowering tulip such as Bouton d'Or. Also for a group of *Tulipa gesneriana lutea elegans* and iris Mrs. Alan Gray.

SEPTEMBER 18. Also two other like suggestions from an outside source: a bright yellow iris like Sherwin-Wright, or Mrs. Neubronner with tulip Zanzibar, of a very dark purple. Such combinations are endless in variety and experience; the notebook and the bulb and plant lists, are the things with which to create them.

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SEPTEMBER 19. Certain lilies should be set now in every garden. The royal lily (*L. regale*) is one of these, so beautiful, so hardy, but needs a peat soil to do really well. The tiger lily (*L. tigrinum*) is a magnificent subject for the border. This grows to six feet, blooming in July and August. The smaller lilies (*L. speciosum*) both pink and white, are lovely among peonies, and *L. henryi* is one of the finest of all, and the most persistent. Its color is a pale orange and it is a thing to invest in.

SEPTEMBER 20. Order bulbs to-day if these have been forgotten. There will not be the choice that would have been yours in June or July, but, to make up, occasional bargains may be found in the mails from the bulb-dealers in late September.

SEPTEMBER 21. If no violet, rose-colored, yellow or orange tulips have yet been ordered, try now to get some of these: single early La Riante; double early Mr. van der Hoef; Imperator Rubrorum (fine double scarlet); Darwins; Marnix van St. Aldegonde, Valentine, Mr. Hoover; the breeder, Cherbourg, and the Rembrandt, Semèle.

SEPTEMBER 22. Those most precious garden subjects, daffodils, should now be looked after carefully. If there are rare named varieties in the border, dig up carefully with a fork, separate and so replant as to increase your stock—that is, give each bulb or bulblet good soil, good drainage and plenty of room.

SEPTEMBER 23. With *Mertensia virginica*, the Virginian cowslip, use also violet and rose-colored tulips, such

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as Le Nôtre, Marnix van St. Aldegonde, Roi d'Islande, Carnaval, Afterglow. Below such groups the beautiful catnip, *Nepeta mussini* always looks well. Have plenty of this last and use with it sometimes the bluest violas to be had, such as Jersey Gem which has much blue in its rich color.

SEPTEMBER 24. Veronicas should now be planted rather freely among other flowers. Their pure lavenders are good "peacemakers" and their varying heights suit them for many positions. *V. spicata's* low spikes fit it for the front of the border while *V. subsessilis* is very fine among pale and deep pink phloxes for August bloom.

SEPTEMBER 25. Plant Japanese irises to-day. These need a cold moist situation and much fertilizing, cow manure being by far the best for this purpose. This iris is usually the last to bloom of all the family, and must have plenty of water and much manure in order to produce large flowers.

SEPTEMBER 26. Look over the garden or borders to-day for weeds and grass. The cleaner these places are kept now, the less trouble there will be in spring with such interlopers.

SEPTEMBER 27. Watch now the pansy seed sown in August. The seedlings should have full sun. The seed bed should never be allowed to grow dry, and light cultivating between the rows is very necessary.

SEPTEMBER 28. A very nice pair of spring blooming plants to use together for the front of the border is this:

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Phlox divaricata laphami and thrift (*Armeria maritima purpurea*).

SEPTEMBER 29. Propagate now from your finest phloxes. Elizabeth Campbell is said to be growing scarce. Take each root of one plant, cut it into half-inch lengths, set each cutting in sand and in spring these little pieces will start, giving you small plants by September. This is both economical and sure.

SEPTEMBER 30. Make now a map or plan or chart of your garden, as soon as final fall planting is finished. This can be done on quadrille paper on small scale, or on ordinary manila paper with a key list of names of plants (numbered on the plan or map) to one side. Show on the plan the positions of all trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants, roses and vines. The convenience of such a sketch for reference in winter is obvious.

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Books on Foreign Gardens

Gardens of South Africa—*Fairbridge.* Blake
A Book of Gardening for the Subtropics—(*Egypt*) *Agar and Stout.* Wetherby
My Garden in the Wilderness—(*India*) *Thacker.* Murray
Gardens of the Great Mughals—*Villiers-Stuart.* Black
Alpine Flowers and Gardens—*Flemwell.* Black
The Flowers and Gardens of Japan—*Du Cane.* Black
Garden of Japan—*F. T. Pigott.* George Allen.
Japanese Gardens—*Mrs. Basil Taylor.* Methuen
Dutch Bulbs and Gardens—*Silberrad and Lyall.* Black
Italian Villas and Their Gardens—*Wharton.* Scribner's
The Old Gardens of Italy—*LeBlond.* Lane.
The Parks, Promenades and Gardens of Paris—*Robinson.* Murray
Scottish Gardens—*Sir Herbert Maxwell.* Longmans.
Spanish Patios and Gardens—*M. S. and A. Byne.* Lippincott
A Garden in Venice—*F. Eden.* George Newnes

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OCTOBER

October 1. A help to the gardener is one of the many published charts giving the depth at which to set various bulbs in the soil. Here are the figures: Lily, top six inches deep, bulbs twelve inches apart. Daffodil, six deep, six to twelve apart; Hyacinth, five deep and five apart; tulip, four, and four apart; scilla, snowdrop and crocus, three inches deep and two apart. Use this information now in setting bulbs.

October 2. It is worth while to plant now, in the order named, for fine color effect and for succession of bloom, tulips Wouverman, Picotee, Sir Harry and Safrano. Among the tulips, *Muscari* Heavenly Blue (grape hyacinth), tulip John Ruskin not far off, and some of those little known but enchanting things, *Ixiolirions*, among tulip Picotee.

October 3. Bulb planting is now going on and it is interesting for the gardener to become a collector of certain bulbs. A collection of daffodils, one of species tulips, of crocus—what intense interest this gives to the spring and to one's reading before the spring.

October 4. This is the month of months for shrub planting and shrub moving. From early October on in northern climates, till the ground freezes, such transplanting may be done; but perhaps the ideal time is during the first half of October.

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October 5. Chionodoxas should be planted now. These are tiny flowers more purple in hue than the scillas, but important for planting in drifts under shrubs, or at the border's edges. *Luciliæ* is the best known of the family but *sardensis* is also very fine.

October 6. While setting out these lesser bulbs, the little *Puschkinia* should not be forgotten. Plant a few dozens at least of this tiny bulb. Its flowers, five inches high, are striped white and blue, and the bulbs increase greatly from year to year.

October 7. Pot bulbs for Christmas bloom. Fill pots with rich earth or with one-third leaf mold, sand and good loam, and plant the bulbs now. If flats are used, not pots, a good size is three feet long, eight inches wide and five high. Crocuses, freesias, Roman hyacinths (plant these by Sept. 15th), miniature hyacinths, daffodils (especially poetaz hybrids) and tulips, may be planted now. Freesias must be started in light; all others set in a dark cool place, watered once at first, and thereafter every fortnight till ready to be brought to a bright window.

October 8. Start making frames now. "The garden without its quota of frames is like an automobile without tires; you may run it, but it is hard and slow work to get anywhere with it."

October 9. The cold frame is meant for the starting of early vegetables, for the sowing of seeds of annuals, and perennials from which early bloom is wanted; and seedlings raised in boxes in the house can be moved to the cold frame when they are large enough. As the season

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advances, the sash can be raised a little in the day time for air, but must be dropped again at night. In later spring, the sash may be removed altogether, depending on the temperature, when the little plants which have been hardened will grow vigorously.

OCTOBER 10. Work on the cold frame now for the next few days. The usual size is three by six feet, sash. "Four planks are used, being set on edge and nailed or bolted together. The rear plank is twelve inches wide and the one in front eight inches. The end planks must be cut on the bias, as it were, to meet these heights. The slope is the long way of the sash."

OCTOBER 11. "While cold frames may be made of plank, concrete retains the heat better and is more durable. Home-made concrete walls, six inches thick, will do. The foundation should go below frost. As it is difficult to make concrete smooth enough on top to fit tightly against the sash, it is better to set the heads of both into the concrete, when making. Afterwards a two-inch by four-inch piece of cypress can be bolted on and planed to fit the sash. Point all woodwork."

OCTOBER 12. Place the cold frames and hot beds on the south side of a building or hedge. The front should be just above the ground level to keep out water. The back is made six inches higher than the front, to shed water, and the front is always to the sun.

OCTOBER 13. Fresh manure is the thing for the hot bed, with some leaves. Turn this pile several times and put it into the hot bed, in foot-deep layers, tramping down

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each one and wetting the whole. If flats are to be used for growing the plants, spread a two-inch layer of soil over the manure, put on the sash and wait for the first intense heat to pass away. The frame is ready for seeds when the temperature is eighty degrees, which will take from five to fifteen days.

October 14. One more word about the cold frame; in sharp climates where plants are to be carried over winter in this small contrivance, the whole frame should be filled with clean fallen leaves; and in very cold weather it might be well to cover the glass with hay or straw.

October 15. Now is the chance for planting at least a few of the newer varieties of mock orange or *philadelphus*. From *P.* Virginal, a large-flowered double variety of purest white, to *P.* Avalanche, a bush bearing literal cascades of small white flowers, there is a great variety from which to choose.

October 16. Plant now such fine and available lilacs as Jean Mace, Maréchale Lannes, Montaigne, Vestale, Lucie Baltet and Diderot, and among the earlier blooming kinds, *Syringa giraldi* hybrids, such as Claude Bernard, Descartes and Mme. Morel.

October 17. Follow the planting of lilacs yesterday by planting Asiatic crabs and cherries to-day. Wherever a screen of low trees is needed, wherever there is green space for one tree or a group of specimen trees to develop well, try these subjects: *Prunus subhirtella* and *P. sargenti*, and *Malus arnoldiana* and *M. atrosanguinea* are also among the finest.

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October 18. Never waste ground below young shrubs by leaving it unused for spring effects. For a lively bit of color plant in colonies that cheap but beautiful tulip *gesneriana rosea*, whose bloom persists and increases from year to year. Bleedingheart (*Dicentra spectabilis*) and the two Darwin tulips, Clara Butt and Reverend H. Ewbank, make a picture among small lilacs in May.

October 19. Plant now most of the lilies, *tenuifolium*, *henryi*, *elegans*, *regale* and *candidum*, unless the last-named has been set in August or September. *Auratum* comes late from Japan and must be planted in November or held over in sand in a cool cellar till spring. Among others to be planted now are *superbum*, *umbellatum*, *tigrinum*, but try *henryi* if you try no other.

October 20. In planting *Lilium auratum*, set a few bulbs of the medium tall ones before three plants of *Artemesia lactiflora*. In early spring sow near the artemesia a few seeds of Sutton's little straw-colored sunflower Primrose Stella.

October 21. Lily of the Valley may be planted or moved now. Give it a rich soil and see that very little of this soil is above the root or pip. Cosmos, late chrysanthemums, tritomas and aconites may be expected to bloom now if they have been protected from frost earlier.

October 22. Perennials may still be planted. Among the better kinds what shall be chosen? In phloxes for lavenders, Eugene Danzanvilliers, Antonin Mercie; in pale pinks, Mme. Paul Dutrie, Selma; deep purplish, Le Mahdi. Blue Hill is said to be of a fine violet color also and

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Rheinlander has superb heads of clear pink flowers with a darker eye. Mia Ruys is a fine new dwarf white.

October 23. In order to get ten or twelve plants from one of *Viburnum carlesi* or from *Philadelphus* Virginal, take ripe cuttings now from these shrubs. These bits should not be less than six inches long, and should have two or more buds. Set them in rows out-of-doors, firm down the earth and mulch well for the winter. Lilacs and spiræas too are among the shrubs which may be propagated in this way.

October 24. Three or four varieties of *Spiræa* including *vanhouttei* can be propagated by cuttings taken now. An authority says that the "young pliable but ripened wood should be used, cut into ten-inch lengths and buried in sand or well-drained soil." They must be planted out in early spring with only about an inch showing.

October 25. Cut off peony leaves if fully dried and finished (though this may not be till early November) and burn them all. A certain amount of freedom from disease will follow this procedure.

October 26. Cut away any dead wood from shrubs before the leaves fall. It is easy to see and take this out then, and will relieve the spring strain if done now. Such pruning may well be done too as shrubs are being moved.

October 27. To-day, just before the probable heavy frosts, sow the following seeds of annuals. If sown early these will germinate and die; therefore do not put them in the ground till now. Seeds to sow to-day are lupine,

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godetia, clarkia, *Didiscus cærulea*, nicotiana, poppy, candytuft, sweet alyssum, *Centaurea imperialis*, *Anchusa capensis*. An interesting experiment this. Try it.

October 28. Plant a few fruit trees now, especially dwarf fruits among the flowers, and at the intersection of walks. Four young apples set in the angles of two cross walks, may, as they grow large, be pleached over the crossing where boughs grow toward each other, and pruned heavily on the outside. A most interesting result will follow in the form of a little bower.

October 29. Add daily to the compost heap all fallen leaves raked from the lawn. It cannot be too often said that one of the greatest of all wastes in gardening is the autumn burning of good leaves.

October 30. After a heavy frost, or as soon as the plants seem dormant, cut off the tops of gladioli and dahlias to one foot from the ground, take up the bulbs, let them dry for two or three days, clean them, and store for the winter. Dahlia tubers are best kept in moist sand. Gladiolus bulbs need a moist cool place like a cellar without heat, or with very little.

October 31. After heavy frost cut down all tops of herbaceous plants, and if there is the least suspicion of disease among these, such as blight of delphiniums, burn instead of adding to the compost heap.

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Books on Gardening in Various Parts of America

In Florida Gardens—*Ferguson and Wilson.* Privately printed

A Calendar of Gardening for Central and Southern Florida—*Mrs. Henry Wight.* Sanford, Florida

Gardening in California—*Mitchell.* Doubleday, Page & Co.

Historic Gardens of Virginia—*Sale.* The William Byrd Press

The Blossom Circle of the Year in Southern Gardens—*Dillon.* A. T. de la Mare Co.

Beautiful Gardens in America—*Shelton.* Scribner's

California Garden Flowers—*E. J. Wickson.* Pacific Rural Press, San Francisco

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NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 1. In putting away tools for winter, they must first be thoroughly cleaned with waste or cloths, all rust taken off—and is there anything better than the old kerosene for this?—then stored in a dry place. The identification of one's own tools by means of a painted band of bright color, green, blue or red on the handles of each, as trunks are marked for quick finding in foreign travel, is an excellent plan.

NOVEMBER 2. If little plants of delphinium should arrive late from a nursery, a good plan when setting these is to sprinkle sifted hard coal ashes around the crowns. This will keep excessive wet from rotting the delicate roots during winter.

NOVEMBER 3. Early this month move in all garden furniture. See that wooden benches and seats are put in a dry place; examine them for possible repairs, and take inventory in case one or two new ones are needed, for winter is the time in which to have these made.

NOVEMBER 4. This is the last chance for bulb-planting. If you have neglected your orders, try now by letter or telegram for what you want. It may not be too late to secure small quantities of good tulips, hyacinths and the lesser bulbs, such as scillas, chionodoxas and muscari. No one with a pink plum (*Prunus triloba*) should fail to plant drifts of *Muscari* Heavenly Blue beneath its branches.

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NOVEMBER 5. Covering such plants as foxgloves and Canterbury bells, those valuable biennials, should never be done with manure, and no heavy covering should be done on the tops of such plants. Those tops need air and dryness, more than protection from cold. Manure may be scattered on the earth around the crowns, but over the leaves use only cornstalks, holding down either leaves or straw.

NOVEMBER 6. A compost heap made of fallen leaves is simply invaluable for the garden. Rake and save all leaves unless you know trees to be infected or infested. The leaves of oak make particularly fine mold, but other leaves are fairly good, too. Such a pile should be forked over once or twice in summer, and a little lime or wood ashes added to it.

NOVEMBER 7. While raking leaves this month, or at any other time, remember that the first to take up are those near frame buildings. The reason is obvious; dry leaves are inflammable and may easily set fire to nearby house, garage or shed.

NOVEMBER 8. Look now in warm corners of the border for small flowery surprises. You will find much for cutting even after the severest frosts. Mignonette will keep on blooming. The little viola called Johnny-jump-up will often show flowers now; marigolds and sometimes even zinnias will open beneath drooping frosted leaves. And fruits of certain shrubs, like some of the barberries, and of many flowering trees, are specially fine in this month.

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NOVEMBER 9. Search the borders again for some flower that may be there. Under snow and ice will now appear the green-white bloom of the Christmas rose (*Helleborus niger*) a sight worth waiting for.

NOVEMBER 10. Up to this date most bulbs keep their vitality when out of the ground; but this is the danger line and if spring flowering bulbs are not planted by this time, they cannot make much root before spring.

NOVEMBER 11. Lift now any forgotten dahlias, gladioli and any other tubers which cannot stand cold. Dry them, cut back tops to eight or ten inches and store for winter.

NOVEMBER 12. Plant two or three varieties of snowdrop, *Galanthus elwesi* and the related summer snowflake, *Leucojum vernum*, much later blooming. All these do best in partial shade.

NOVEMBER 13. Prepare any unnoticed empty bits of ground for bulbs, if this has not been done before, remembering that they will not endure fresh manure, and that bone meal is a good substitute.

NOVEMBER 14. If bulbs are delayed in arriving, especially those from abroad, a good plan is to keep the ground open for them by heaping fresh manure a foot deep over the surface of the ground where they are to be planted. In this way bulbs may be set as late as the end of the year or later.

NOVEMBER 15. *Lilum auratum* in a September border flowering against such a hardy aster as King of the Belgians

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or Climax are perhaps at their most beautiful. These bulbs should be arriving soon now from the dealer; if the ground is not too hard, plant them at once; otherwise store in a cool dry place till April. As a rule the dealers store these more successfully than the amateur.

NOVEMBER 16. Look over to-day all seeds gathered from the garden. See that these are in tin boxes if possible, very perfectly labeled, and kept in a dry cool place till spring. The tin box is essential because of the fondness of mice for certain seeds.

NOVEMBER 17. Cover roses now. In the colder parts of the country, climbing roses and ramblers should be taken down from their supports, coiled into heaps, covered with leaves, straw and burlap held down by stones or brick, all this after the roots have been heaped six or eight inches deep with earth mixed with well-rotted manure.

NOVEMBER 18. If any flower stalks have been missed in the late October clearing up or left because of possible farewell flowers, cut these down now and throw them on the bonfire.

NOVEMBER 19. Where weeds remain between the garden's plants or rows, take these out now. This will save hours of heavier weeding in the spring. Spring is a feverish time in the garden; do all possible work in autumn and thus reduce this fever.

NOVEMBER 20. All raked-up leaves should not go into the compost heap. Some will be needed now for covering the garden beds, and with straw, as a light blanket for newly planted bulbs.

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NOVEMBER 21. In covering plants now, remember that one of the main objects of such covering, if not the most important one, is to keep them dry. Winter wet is a terribly destructive agent in the garden and border.

NOVEMBER 22. Around the crowns of small delphinium seedlings, sprinkle two or three teaspoonfuls of finely-sifted hard coal ashes. This will do wonders toward keeping the little plants over winter. There is nothing more resented by delphiniums of all kinds than winter wet.

NOVEMBER 23. If the weather is still fine and ground open, it is not too late to plant certain perennials to-day. Hardy phloxes, even *Iris germanica* and things of this type whose hold on life is tenacious can still be moved or set out.

NOVEMBER 24. Trees should be planted now, and into December unless ground freezes. All such plantings, together with fresh shrub-plantings should be well mulched with fresh stable manure or litter. Roots of trees and shrubs already growing should get a light mulch of well-rotted manure for food.

NOVEMBER 25. The time is here in which to transplant old lilacs, old mock oranges, old spiræas and most trees. In moving old shrubs, wait till all leaves have fallen; remove all earth from roots gently and work the roots loose, not drag and tear them. Reset in a hole much larger than is apparently needed; prune the roots, and plant in freshly made rich soil.

NOVEMBER 26. As trees and shrubs are set now, watch the drawing, the composition you are inevitably making.

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Think of form, of outlines, even of skylines made by shrub or tree groups; and think of them always in relation to what is near. This is one of Miss Jekyll's fine injunctions in "Color in the Flower Garden," and it cannot be too often said or written.

NOVEMBER 27. If there is nothing to be done to-day and frost is still distant, spade every bit of unused ground in the garden, and leave it rough for winter. By spring, this earth will be mellow and insects and their eggs will have been killed by cold.

NOVEMBER 28. For the first hard frosts in the garden, have ready some straw mats, burlaps and other such material for covering special plants, cold frames and hot beds on cold nights. Chrysanthemums, even zinnias, will be spared for a fortnight, or more perhaps, if they have this attention.

NOVEMBER 29. Prepare now the ground for the sweet pea seed sowing of the spring. This late spading and cultivating gives the seed a better start when sown, and of course earlier bloom will result.

NOVEMBER 30. It is time now to drain pools and bird baths; if heavy ice forms in these, concrete or stone may be hurt. Wooden covers for the empty basin or pool are a great protection, in fact, almost a necessity for winter for such garden accessories.

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Miscellaneous Books

A History of Gardening in England—*The Hon. Mrs. Evelyn Cecil.* Dutton

Flower Decoration in the House—*Jekyll.* Country Life Library

The Secrets of Many Gardens—*Mrs. Philip Martineau.* Williams and Norgate

A Garden in the Suburbs—*Mrs. Leslie Williams.* Lane

The Apple Tree—*L. H. Bailey.* Macmillan

The Scots Gard'ner—*John Reid.* Foulis

The Garden of Ignorance—*Mrs. Cran.* Jenkins

The Guild of the Garden Lovers—*O'Brien.* Routledge

A Garden of Herbs—*E. S. Rohde.* Lee Warner

Plant Names—*T. S. Lindsay.* The Shelton Press

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DECEMBER

DECEMBER 1. Give Roman hyacinths to your friends for Christmas. These, to be forced for Christmas, should be potted now. In a five-inch pot, plant three such hyacinths, giving an inch of drainage material like broken rock at the bottom, and filling the pot with good light soil. Set the pots in a dark cool place, water them once or twice each week; in three weeks, bring them gradually into sun.

DECEMBER 2. Two or three suggestions for garden Christmas presents are: a basket on wheels for hauling about one's garden tools and books from place to place; a stake of galvanized wire, very inconspicuous, which is almost the perfect stem-support; and a new type of grass shears which with handle well above the knives, is very easy and effective.

DECEMBER 3. A delightful small garden notebook is published in London, and has such nice titles for notes as these: Seeds, Plants, Bulbs, Cuttings, Color Schemes, Last Year's Mistakes, Given (I promised), Received, Seen. Add this now to your own books or your Christmas lists.

DECEMBER 4. Other welcome Christmas tokens are an order on a seedsman or nurseryman for a certain amount; specially new gloves, kneeling pads, garden baskets, scissors—anything new and strange in garden tools or accessories.

NOTES

DECEMBER 5. Make out to-day a list of Christmas presents suitable for gardeners. Why not if one has a fine bank account, present a garden plan from some important source to a member of the family or a friend who could not otherwise have it?

DECEMBER 6. Give garden seeds as Christmas cards, and garden books as Christmas presents. If every bookseller in the land would fill his window now with such books and hang these words above them, "Give for Christmas fair imaginings which may become realities"—what missionaries they might be!

DECEMBER 7. Get some of these little garden accessories which will serve as specially interesting things to give at Christmas; a package of wall nails; a package of verbena pins; some unusual or particularly good plant or shrub; tree labels; a trowel of very fine make and lines; a pair of extra-small, sharp shears; a sixty-foot measuring tape in a round green case; an all-rubber kneeling mat.

DECEMBER 8. The living Christmas tree idea, the taking up of a small spruce, or fir, with a good ball and the replacing of it a day or two later in its own habitat, is a practice that should make even Christmas a happier day. The thought that no young evergreen has been massacred to make our holiday will add a glow to the time.

DECEMBER 9. Plan now for this Christmas tree in a pot. If there is no small spruce, hemlock or fir available, visit a nursery, buy a shapely evergreen, and plant it a day or two after Christmas, in a garden spot that has been heaped with manure since November.

NOTES

DECEMBER 10. Christmas wreaths are made now by a nursery near Boston as a by-product. The later clippings of rare and beautiful evergreens, both broad-leaved and narrow-leaved, are carefully saved, and most interesting and uncommon wreaths result, with a ready market for these in the city in December. Try this by using like foliage of your own growing and cutting.

DECEMBER 11. Look over the boxes of sand in which dahlia tubers are stored, to see that all is going well with them, not too much moisture which will cause rot. Make this inspection once a month till spring.

DECEMBER 12. Though our subject is the flower-garden, it is impossible to keep from advising that parsley and chives be taken up to-day, set in pots and placed in a sunny window for kitchen use.

DECEMBER 13. In the colder climates, the hilling up with earth of baby rambler roses and the bunching of their stems and covering with straw will save the top growth immeasurably. Do this now.

DECEMBER 14. If weather is mild to-day, take cuttings from especially fine trees and shrubs, label them and heel in very deep, leaving only two buds above ground for the spring.

DECEMBER 15. Watch the weather; read the Washington predictions for the week and let these govern your actions in the garden. If the final winter protection has not been laid or given, be careful to act in face of cold wave or storm warnings.

NOTES

DECEMBER 16. The reasons for covering plants and shrubs in winter are two; protection from winter sun and to get a uniform temperature for these during cold weather. Winter sun will burn leaves of rhododendron and mahonia beyond belief; while if a blanket more permanent than snow is not given to perennials, the results from alternate thawing and freezing will in spring be distressful indeed.

DECEMBER 17. Still rake leaves if weather is open. "Autumn fires," says the writer of "The Little Garden for Little Money," "fill the air with savory smoke, but no true gardener can enjoy it. The waste is terrible for not only the garden's protective blanket is being destroyed, but quantities of good nourishment are going up in smoke."

DECEMBER 18. Give one thought to-day to the final protection of the more tender plants. Tar paper, though ugly, is an excellent cover over leaves and straw for such plants as Canterbury bells, anchusa, tritoma and any rather tender lily such as the Nankeen lily.

DECEMBER 19. If there has been till now, as sometimes happens, no heavy frost, do not mulch the borders where bulbs are planted. This must be done only after the ground is frozen a little. Its object is to keep an even temperature in the earth below.

DECEMBER 20. All sorts of winter garden work may be done now, including the making of trays or flats for spring use in seed-sowing, the markings of labels, the sorting over of the dozens of small things which are required in gardens, and putting these in order in a convenient place.

NOTES

DECEMBER 21. Look again to-day over all garden tools supposed to have been put away for winter. A thorough cleaning and polishing and a coat of vaseline is what the metal parts need. Mend old garden gloves.

DECEMBER 22. If ground is still open, give to-day to shrubs and trees a dressing of old manure, and work it in well around their stems and roots. In mild winters this work may be done now and will prove excellent for next year's growth.

DECEMBER 23. Remember that perennials that keep their leaves through winter, also some biennials, need straw and leaf coverings, but not manure. Where evergreen boughs are available these make fine protectors for Canterbury bells and foxgloves, especially when covered with leaves after being laid down.

DECEMBER 24. A good protection for lilies is a mound of coal ashes placed over the crown. It is well known that lily bulbs often melt away in warm wet winters, and this layer of ashes keeps moisture from the bulbs.

DECEMBER 25. Go out to-day into your own highways and hedges, and see what lovely leaves and fruits may still be gathered for Christmas gayety. Sprays of *evonymus radicans*, always richly green, fruits of certain barberries and thorns, haws of such roses as Mme. Plantier and a few cuttings of evergreens. With all these one's own best wreath can be created, and how much more enjoyable to produce and make than to emptily buy.

NOTES

DECEMBER 26. Make low shading frames now of lath or lighter strips of wood for the perennial seeds which go into the ground in spring. Failure to shade such seed is probably the most frequent cause of loss, yet we lay this to seed, seedsmen, anything else.

DECEMBER 27. With low-headed flowering trees or fruit trees, brace the lower boughs now with boards or poles so that they may not break with ice or snow during the next few months.

DECEMBER 28. Snow on evergreens, hedges or trees, should be shaken or knocked off now, as a freezing rain might fall and the load then break the branches. Snow on delicate-branched shrubs should also be knocked off for the same reason.

DECEMBER 29. In an open winter, if ground has not frozen in certain spots, and even if it has hardened slightly, late-thought-of bulbs such as tulips, and daffodils may be planted for spring effect. There are sometimes bargain offers of left-over bulbs which make this late planting possible and pleasant. Watch for these offers in magazines and in your mails.

DECEMBER 30. Think out to-day a planting for next spring in a shady place where certain flowers have not done well. Here try such a group as from front to back, Munstead lavender, mignonette, *Sedum spectabile*, the smaller and larger funkias, a few tall delphiniums, such a phlox as Pantheon, with, where the earth is moist, hybrid primulas along the edge for spring interest.

NOTES

DECEMBER 31. "There is no limit," says Professor Hugh Findlay, "to the production of crops on the mental soil"; and this is true of flowers in December. Read, study, think now about the garden, and each spring will be more glorious than the last.

NOTES

DECEMBER

Books to Give at Christmas

Books for the Toe of the Stocking

The Pocket Gardener—*H. H. Thomas.* Cassell
Pronunciation of Plant Names—*The Garden Club of America*
The Joys of Gardens. Published by Roy Phillips.
Gardening—*L. Williams.* Nelson
The Garden Register—*Marion Cran.* Herbert Jenkins, Ltd.
In Praise of Old Gardens—*Vernon Lee.* Thomas B. Mosher

Princely Books

The Genus Rosa—*Willmott.* Cambridge University Press
The Genus Iris—*Dykes.* Cambridge University Press
Garden Ornament—*Jekyll.* Country Life Library
Some English Gardens—*Jekyll and Elgood.* Longmans
Jardines de Espana—*Santiago Rusiñol.* Sociedad Anonimo, Madrid
Home Landscapes—*William Robinson.* Murray
Des Divers Styles de Jardins—*Fouquier et Duchêne.* Emile-Paul

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Anchusa, July 10, 13; Sept. 12; Oct. 27; Dec. 18.
Anemone, Aug. 24; Sept. 9.
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Aphis, May 14.
Apple Trees, Jan. 10.
Aquilegia, July 16.
Arabis, May 7.
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Since the three readers of this book in manuscript have each asked that a list of sources for the seeds and plants mentioned in it be added in print, the following names are given. The list is simply of catalogues which happened to be consulted as the book was in course of preparation, and no invidious distinctions are intended.

Henry F. Michell, Philadelphia, Pa.
Vaughan and Co., Chicago, Ill.
Henry A. Dreer, Philadelphia, Pa.
Peter Henderson, New York, N. Y.
Charles F. Totty, Madison, N. J.
Burpee and Co., Philadelphia, Pa.
Bay State Nurseries, North Abington, Mass.
John Scheepers, Inc., New York, N. Y.
Geo. H. Erhrle, Richfield, Paterson, N. J.
Quality Iris Gardens, Freeport, Ill.
W. E. Marshall and Co., New York, N. Y.
Richard Diener, Kentfield, Cal.
Elmwood Terrace Gardens, Old Bennington, Vt.
Wolcott Nurseries, Jackson, Mich.
Naperville Nurseries, Naperville, Ill.
Van Dusen Nurseries, Geneva, N. Y.
Steele's Pansy Gardens, Portland, Ore.
Wayside Gardens, West Mentor, O.
Vilmorin, Andrieux et Cie, Paris, France
Sutton and Sons, Reading, England
Dobbie and Co., Edinburgh, Scotland
Thompson and Morgan, Ipswich, England
C. G. van Tubergen and Co., Haarlem, Holland

NOTES